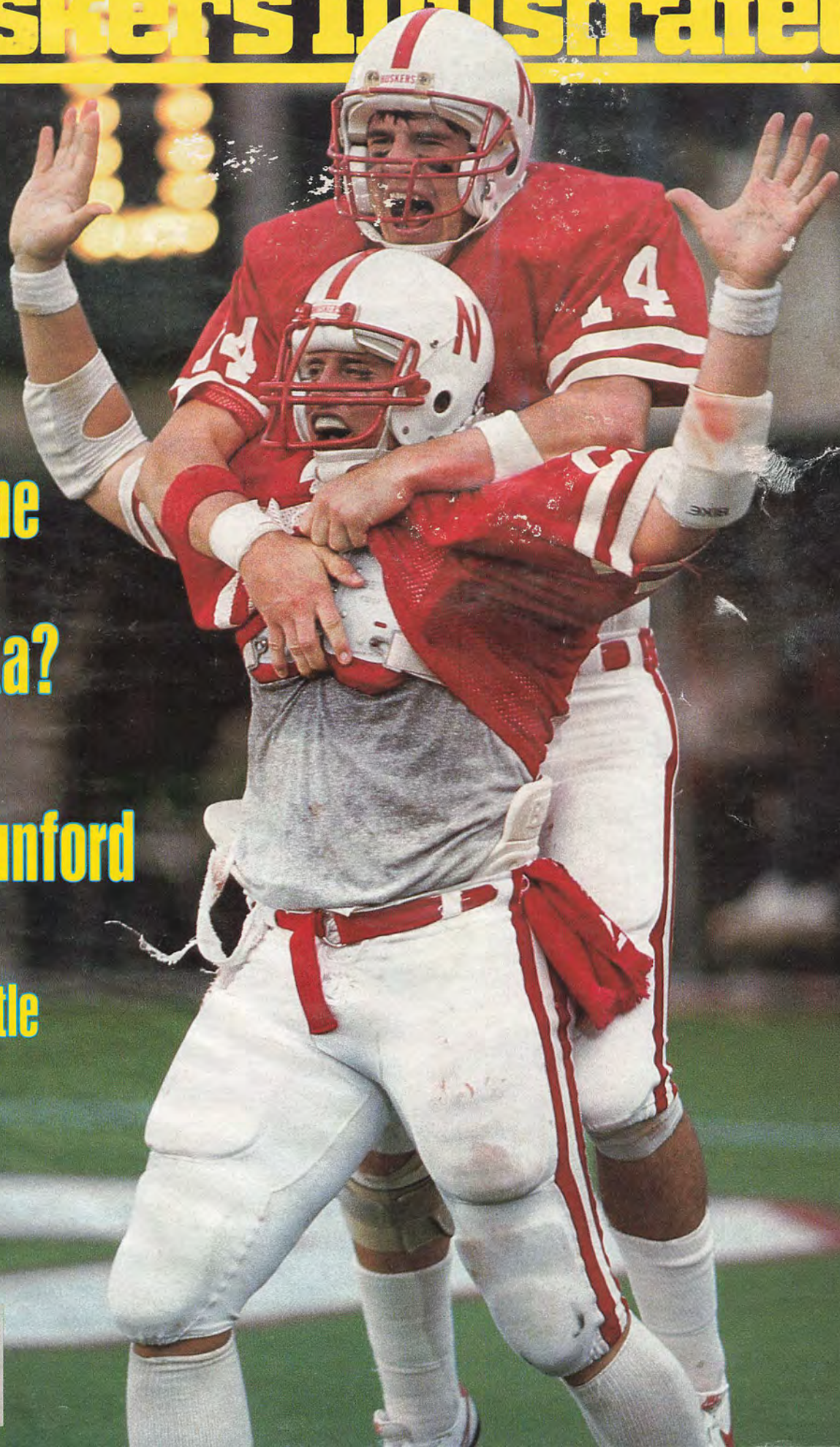


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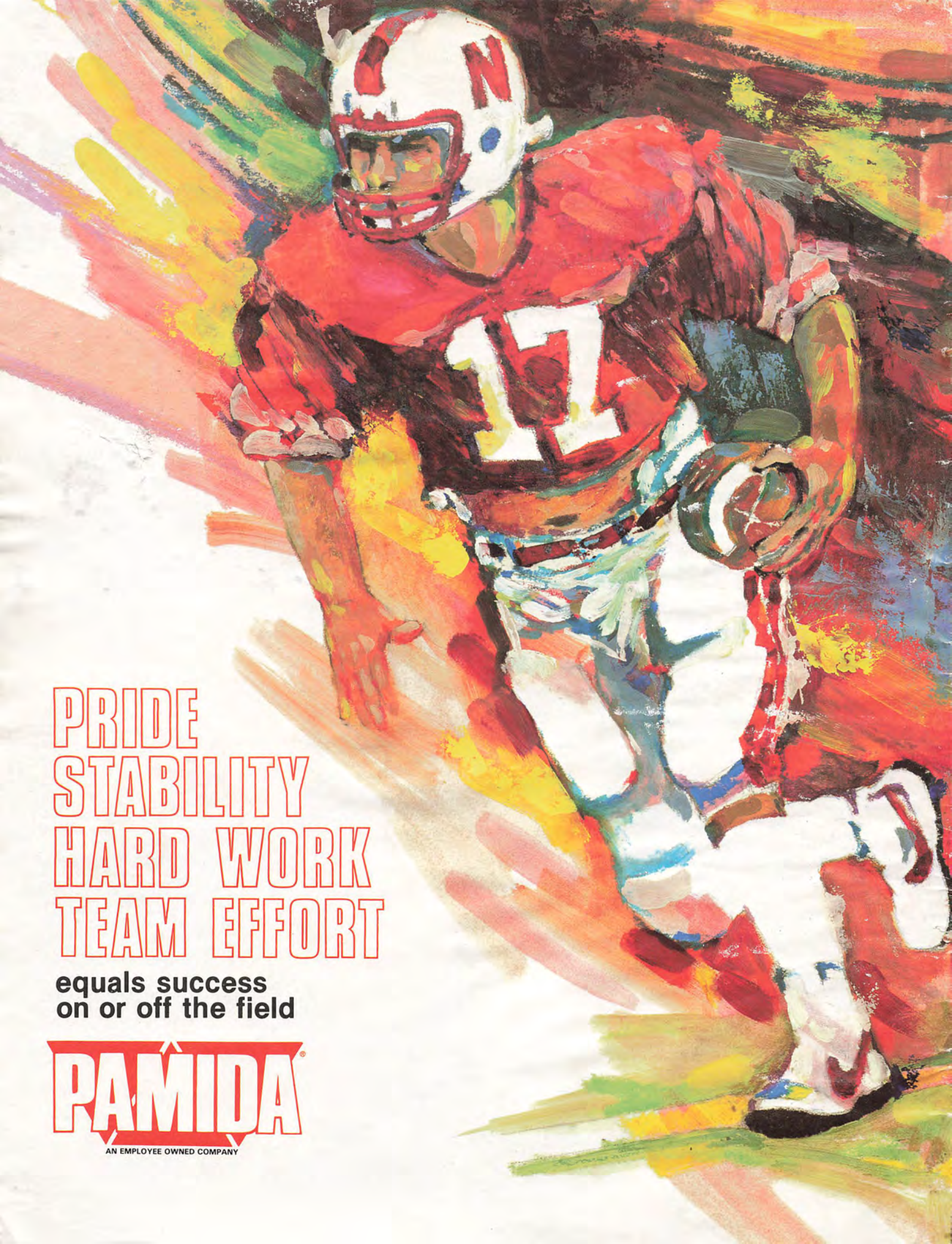
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## On The Cover

Travis Turner hops on the back of fullback Tom Rathman after the latter scored a key TD against Colorado. Ken Jarecke captured the moment with his camera.

## In The Next Issue

A complete review of the Fiesta Bowl, recruiting and a look at winter sports.

## Huskers Illustrated...

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## Quotes 'n Notes

**Jim Skow**, Nebraska's All-American defensive tackle, on Michigan: "One thing I do like about Michigan is that they wear black, high-top shoes. They're really cool-looking."...

After his Minnesota team lost to Michigan 48-7 this season, **Lou Holtz**, who was recently hired to replace Gerry Faust as head coach at Notre Dame, remarked: "Oklahoma's defense was awesome when we played them, but Michigan is the best defensive team I've ever seen since I've been coaching."...

Cornhusker Coach **Tom Osborne** after the season-ending loss to Oklahoma: "We just got a good kickin' today. When you win 54-3, things aren't as good as they seem. If you look at films, you can see things aren't that good. But you can look at films and see that things aren't that bad, either. I just don't think things are as bad as they looked. We'll be back in the picture next year."...

Sooner tight end **Keith Jackson** carried the ball three times and gained 136 yards against Nebraska. Nebraska defensive coordinator **Charlie McBride**, after the game: "Without Jackson, Oklahoma is a good football team. With him, they're a great team."...

Cornhusker safety **Chris Carr** on Jackson's 88-yard touchdown run on a reverse early in the first quarter: "I had the angle on him, but I'll tell you what, that guy has some serious speed."...

Junior linebacker **Marc Munford**, who underwent major reconstructive knee surgery the day after the Kansas game, remained hospitalized with a kidney problem that required he receive dialysis treatments. Specialists have been brought in to study Munford's illness...

Five Cornhuskers were picked first-team All-Big Eight by both the Associated Press and United Press International. They included: I-back **Doug DuBose**, offensive guard **Brian Blankenship**, center **Bill Lewis**, defensive tackle **Jim Skow** and place-kicker **Dale Klein**.

Fullback **Tom Rathman** and linebacker **Marc Munford** were also first-team selections by the Associated Press. The two were second-team picks by UPI.

Other Nebraska players who received second-team recognition included: offensive tackle **Tim Roth** (AP), middle guard **Danny Noonan** (AP, UPI), monster back **Brian Washington** (AP, UPI), defensive tackle **Chris Spachman** (UPI) and punter **Dan Wingard** (AP).

Cornerback **Brian Davis** (UPI) and linebacker **Mike Knox** (AP) were accorded All-Conference honorable mention.

Two Nebraska players received first-



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team All-American recognition. **Skow** was included on the Kodak team, and **Lewis** made the Football Writers' team. Michigan defensive back Brad Cochran made both first teams as well as the Walter Camp All-America first team. Wolverine defensive tackle Mike Hammerstein was picked on the Kodak squad...

In the second half, **Michigan** outscored its opponents 163-26 this season. The Wolverine offense was successful on nearly 50 percent of its third-down conversion attempts.

In 106 years of intercollegiate football competition, Michigan has won 664 games, more than any other NCAA Division I-A school. The Wolverines' record, all-time, is 664-223-32.

Michigan will be making an 11th consecutive post-season bowl appearance when it plays Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl New Year's Day.

Wolverine split end Paul Jokisch has caught at least one pass in 14 consecutive games over two seasons. The senior Birmingham, Mich., stands 6-foot-8 and weighs 240 pounds. He also played basketball his first two seasons at Michigan. Jokisch leads the team in receptions, with 36, and receiving yards, with 666.

The Wolverines' field goal kickers, Mike Gillette and Pat Moons, have combined for a school-record 18. Gillette, a freshman from St. Joseph, Mich., has kicked 16 of them, which is also a school record.

Senior defensive tackle Mike Hammerstein is one tackle-for-loss away from tying the Michigan single-season record of 23, set by Curtis Greer in 1979. Hammerstein was one of four Lombardi Award finalists. His brother, Mark, is a starting offensive lineman for the Wolverines.

Quarterback Jim Harbaugh, a red-shirted junior from Palo Alto, Calif., broke Michigan single-season records for passing yardage and touchdown passes. He's completed 139 of 212 for 1,913 yards and 18 touchdowns. Harbaugh has been intercepted only six times. His longest pass of the season was a 77-yarder for a touchdown, to freshman flanker John Kolesar.

In his final three games, Harbaugh completed 41 of 50 passes (82 percent) for 706 yards and nine touchdowns.

He goes into the Fiesta Bowl having thrown 109 passes without an interception. Linebacker Andy Moeller, Michigan's leading tackler, is the son of the Wolverines' defensive coordinator, Gary Moeller. Linebacker Mike Mallory and safety Doug Mallory are the sons of Indiana football Coach Bill Mallory.

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## Scoring Summary

The Fiesta Bowl is Michigan's 17th post-season bowl appearance. The Wolverines have played in the Rose Bowl 11 times. Their record in Pasadena is 5-6.

### Michigan Coach Bo Schembechler:

"We haven't faced a team with a running game the caliber of Nebraska's. You don't face a lot of running teams in the Big 10. We've controlled the passing quarterbacks pretty well. Trying to stop a great running team like Nebraska will be a real challenge for our kids.

"Although I've never coached against Tom Osborne, I have gotten to know Tom over the years from our association at professional meetings and clinics. Just as everyone, I have a great respect for him as a coach and for the Nebraska program." ♦

### OKLAHOMA 27, NEBRASKA 7

Oklahoma .....	14	3	10	0 — 27
Nebraska .....	0	0	0	7 — 7

#### First Quarter

**OU 7, NU 0.** Jackson 88 run (Lashar kick). Time left: 11:21. Drive: 91 yards in two plays. Key plays: TD run, a tight end reverse.

**OU14, NU 0.** Holieway 43 run (Lashar kick). Time left: 5:52. Drive: 90 yards in six plays. Key plays: Holieway 38 pass to Jackson on third and four to NU 46; Holieway TD run on third and seven.

#### Second Quarter

**OU 17, NU 0.** Field goal, Lashar 26. Time left: 1:18. Drive: 37 yards in seven plays. Key plays: short 17-yard punt to OU 44; Jackson 29 run on tight end reverse to NU 25.

#### Third Quarter

**OU 20, NU 0.** Field goal, Lashar 34. Time left: 9:19. Drive: 54 yards in 10 plays. Key plays: Carr five run on third and two to OU 42; Holieway 18 run on next play; Holieway 15 run to NU 17.

**OU 27, NU 0.** Holieway 17 run (Lashar kick). Time left: 2:26. Drive: 75 yards in nine plays. Key plays: Jackson scrambles for 19 after trying to pass on tight end reverse play, gets to OU 47; Holieway TD run on third and three.

#### Fourth Quarter

**NU 7, OU 27.** Spachman 76 fumble return. Time left: 0:26. No drive.

Attendance: 75,004



# Statistics

## TEAM STATISTICS

	NU	TEAM OU	SEASON NU	OPP
First downs	10	19	238	167
First downs rushing	6	17	188	80
First downs passing	4	1	45	79
First downs penalty	0	1	5	8
Rushing attempts	42	70	697	446
Yards gained rushing	184	470	4379	1818
Yards lost rushing	23	47	262	485
Net yards rushing	161	423	4117	1333
Net yards passing	63	38	1080	1737
Passes attempted	15	4	144	319
Passes completed	4	1	55	153
Interceptions by	0	3	21	11
Intercept. ret. yards	0	9	363	66
Total plays	57	74	841	765
Total yards	224	461	5197	3070
Avg. gain per play	3.9	6.2	6.2	4.0
Punts-yards	8-310	7-240	48-200	90-3659
Avg. per punt	38.8	34.3	41.7	40.7
Punts returned-yards	0-0	0-0	33-2278	14-88
Kickoff returns-yards	3-73	1-1	24-633	56-873
Punts blocked	0	0	1	0
Fumbles-fumbles lost	3-1	3-2	42-20	36-17
Penalties-yards	2-20	3-13	55-431	53-384
Possession time	25:34	34:26	351:06	308:14
3rd down conversions	3-14	8-17	63-164	46-176
Sacks-yards	2-26	3-7	48-376	16-95

## SEASON INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**Rushing:** DuBose 203-1161 8TD, Rathman 118-881 8TD, Miles 102-689 5TD, Sheppard 21-295 4TD, Clayton 83-290 5TD, Jones 38-240 3TD, Kaelin 17-137 2TD, S. Taylor 14-103 2TD, Kelley 22-93 1TD, Blakeman 15-65, Nelson 5-38, J. Taylor 7-31, Casterline 8-29 1TD, T. Knox 4-21, Lindstrom 4-18, Brinson 2-14, Blankenship 0-7, Heibel 2-5, Turner 24-4 1TD, Mlinar 2-2, Hedlund 2-2, Schnitzler 2-(-2).

**Receiving:** Schnitzler 16-382 2TD, Sheppard 9-281 2TD, Smith 8-121, DuBose 5-65, Lindstrom 3-59, Frain 3-59, Banderas 2-26 2TD, Hawkins 2-26, Krantz 1-11, Brinson 1-5, Kaelin 1-3, Miles 1-(-2).

**Passing:** Clayton 28-78-7 602 3TD, Turner 21-55-3 418 3TD, S. Taylor 3-6-1 38, Blakeman 3-5-0 22.

**Kickoff Returns (average):** DuBose 9-29.1, K. Jones 4-41.0 1TD, Miles 4-13.8, Kelley 3-24.0, Sheppard 2-22.5, Brinson 1-35.0, Frain 1-0.

**Punt Returns (average):** Schnitzler 16-12.9, Brinson 7-2.7, Sheppard 5-6.8, Siebler 4-1.8, Tomjack 1-11.0.

**Interceptions:** Carr 3-97 1TD, Washington 3-4, Spachman 2-114 2TD, Davis 2-27, Munford 2-26, Carl 2-23, M. Knox 2-3, Rozier 1-25, Watkins 1-24, Pokorny 1-12, Reeves 1-8, B. Smith 1-0.

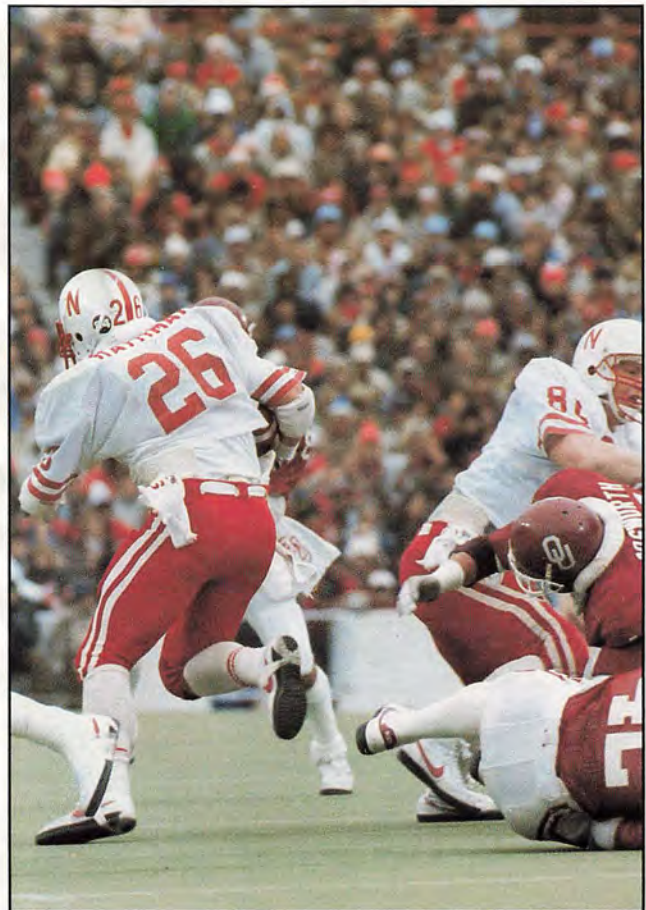
**Punting (average):** Wingard 46-42.0, Klein 2-33.5.

**Defense:** Munford 67 (43-24), M. Knox 65 (29-36), Skow 53 (43-10), Parsons 48 (29-19), Noonan 47 (33-14), Washington 37 (23-14), Tucker 35 (17-18), Spachman 34 (23-11), Daffer 31 (20-11), Carr 31 (26-5), Siebler 30 (17-13), B. Smith 25 (21-4), Miller 23 (17-6), Davis 23 (20-3), Carl 21 (13-8), Holloway 20 (14-6), N. Smith 19 (10-9), Reeves 18 (15-3), Thomas 13 (8-5), Watkins 13 (9-4), L. Jones 12 (8-4), Forch 10 (6-4), Proffitt 9 (7-2), Rozier 6 (4-2), Shead 5 (3-2), Tyrer 5 (3-2), Tomjack 3 (2-1), Rogers 3 (3-0), Etienne 3 (3-0), Thayer 2 (2-0), Shaw 2 (2-0), Schneider 1 (1-0), Pokorny 1 (1-0), Reynolds 1 (1-0), Palmer 1 (1-0), Jamrog 1 (1-0), Groskurth 1 (1-0), Welniak 1 (1-0), Jobman 1 (1-0), Paige 1 (1-0), Van Dyke 1 (1-0).

**Tackles for Loss:** Skow 25-163, Noonan 14-78, Tucker 5-29, Spachman 5-17, Proffitt 4-29, Holloway 4-22, N. Smith 4-20, L. Jones 3-25, Washington 3-8, Thomas 2-19, Parsons 2-10, B. Smith 2-5, Munford 1-3, M. Knox 1-2, Daffer 1-7, Siebler 1-5, Davis 1-6, Carl 1-3, Reeves 1-6, Jamrog 1-5, Welniak 1-9.

**Sacks:** Skow 15-139, Noonan 11-69, Tucker 3-26, Holloway 3-21, L. Jones 2-23, Thomas 2-19, Proffitt 2-16, N. Smith 2-16, Spachman 2-10, Parsons 1-9, Welniak 1-9, M. Knox 1-2, Daffer 1-7, Davis 1-6, Reeves 1-6, Jamrog 1-5.

(Top photo) Steve Taylor (11) looks for running room behind Bill Lewis (68) and Tim Roth (65), but finds little, while (lower) Tom Rathman (26) finds a hole on this third quarter run.







## Bowl Tradition

# Huskers Sorry, But Fiesta Bowl Got Top Choice

Tom Osborne apologetically accepted a bid from the Sunbist Fiesta Bowl after Nebraska's regular season-ending, 27-7 loss to Oklahoma in Norman, Okla.

"We appreciate your invitation very much," Osborne told Alex Crutchfield, a Fiesta Bowl official. "I'm sorry we didn't play better today."

The Fiesta Bowl, which held its first post-season game in Tempe, Ariz., on Dec. 27, 1971, wasn't complaining.

Osborne needn't have apologized.

"I'm sorry Nebraska had such a bad day. But we got the match-up we wanted. By far, it'll be the best match-up in the history of our bowl," said Crutchfield, chairman of the bowl's budget committee.

Nebraska played in the 1975 Fiesta Bowl, losing in an upset to host Arizona State, 17-14. Since then, the Fiesta Bowl Committee has had a warm spot in its heart for the Cornhuskers.

"They were our first major team," Crutchfield said. "Their appearance that year is what gave our game national credibility. We've been trying to get them back for 10 years."

With Nebraska playing Michigan on New Year's Day, "we've put together our dream game. From the very outset, we wanted Nebraska and Michigan," said Crutchfield. "And we got them."

For the Fiesta Bowl, which is finally receiving the respect of a major bowl, it'll be a match made in heaven.

Sun Devil Stadium, with a capacity of approximately 72,000, will be sold out, and a national television audience of millions more will be watching on NBC.

Post-season bowls are old hat for Nebraska, which will be playing in its 17th in a row, the longest current streak of any school.

So regular have the Cornhuskers' bowl appearances been, their annual schedule cards might just as well include the additional game with the notation, "bowl and opponent to be determined."

Since Bob Devaney came to Nebraska in 1962 and took the Cornhuskers to the defunct Gotham Bowl in New York City's Yankee Stadium, Nebraska has stayed at home over the Christmas holidays only twice, in 1967 and 1968.

Even though the Cornhuskers have come to expect bowl bids, and financial considerations all but preclude turning them down, the excitement and anticipation never seem to diminish.

A bowl is still a reward, for the players as well as the program.

Nebraska stands to make just over \$1 million for the Big Eight to divide. That pot also will be fed by Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Colorado, the conference's other bowl entrants.

This will be bowl game No. 24 for Nebraska. For Michigan, it's No. 17 and the Wolverines' 11th in a row. They've been to the Rose Bowl 11 times.



(Top photo,) Von Sheppard (2) is out in front of the pack on this 52-yard run to the OU six, while (lower) Brad Smith (81), Jim Skow (96), Danny Noonan (95) and Co. bury Sooner QB Jamelle Holieway. (All photos by John Bills.)



Doug DuBose (22)  
goes for a long gain in  
last year's Sugar Bowl  
win over LSU.

Nebraska made its first-ever bowl appearance in Pasadena, Calif., on Jan. 1, 1941, losing to Stanford, 21-13. The Cornhuskers didn't play in their second bowl game until Jan. 1, 1955, when they lost to Duke, 34-7, in the Orange Bowl. Back then, a bowl game was an uncommon experience for Nebraska.

Now, it's a habit.

Each of Osborne's teams has been bowl-bound at season's end. His bowl record is 7-5. Here's a brief look at each one.

### ***Cotton Bowl/Jan. 1, 1974***

NEBRASKA 19, TEXAS 3

Reserve quarterback Steve Runty, a senior from Ogallala, directed the Cornhuskers to a 16-point second half, giving Tom Osborne a victory in his first post-season bowl game.

A dramatic goalline stand by Texas at its own one-yard line just before halftime sent the teams to the lockerroom at intermission tied 3-3.

Rich Sanger accounted for Nebraska's points by kicking a 24-yard field goal.

Midway through the third quarter, with the score still tied, the Longhorns attempted a 54-yard field goal, which was returned 41 yards by the Cornhuskers' Bob Thornton, now a Nebraska assistant coach.

Eight plays later, Ritch Bahe ran 12 yards on a reverse to score the game's first touchdown. Sanger added the extra point to make the score 10-3.

On the ensuing kickoff, Texas fumbled, Nebraska's John Bell recovered at the Longhorn 19-yard line, and three plays later, Tony Davis burst into the end zone. Sanger added a 43-yard field goal in the fourth quarter.

Davis, a sophomore from Tecumseh who rushed for 106 yards, was named the game's Outstanding Offensive Player.

Junior linebacker Bob Nelson was Nebraska's leading tackler. He was credited with nine, six unassisted.

Coach Darrell Royal's Longhorns were limited to 196 total yards. Roosevelt Leaks, their All-American fullback, managed only 48 rushing yards.

It was Nebraska's fifth consecutive bowl victory.

### ***Sugar Bowl/Dec. 31, 1974***

NEBRASKA 13, FLORIDA 10

The Cornhuskers tied Georgia Tech's national record by winning a sixth con-



secutive bowl game, thanks to Mike Coyle's 39-yard field goal with only 1:46 remaining.

Nebraska, which trailed 10-0 at halftime, staged a dramatic comeback, scoring all of its points in the fourth quarter. Once again, a reserve quarterback played a key role in the Cornhusker victory — Terry Luck, a junior from Fayetteville, N.C.

Luck came on in the fourth quarter to replace David Humm, who completed only two of 12 passes and was intercepted four times, and directed a 99-yard touchdown drive, capped by Monte Anthony's two-yard run. Coyle's extra-point kick made the score 10-7.

Coyle, a junior out of Omaha Creighton Prep, tied the game on a 37-yard field goal with 7:20 remaining.

The game-winning drive began from the Nebraska 25-yard line with 4:08 left.

Tony Davis was again named the Out-

standing Player of the Game, after rushing for 126 yards. The Cornhusker defense was led by Tom Pate, who had 14 tackles, including 11 unassisted.

Jim Burrow, a junior defensive back from Amory, Miss., kept Nebraska from falling behind 17-0 late in the third quarter by making a tackle for no gain on a fourth-down-and-goal at the Cornhusker one-yard line.

### ***Fiesta Bowl/Dec. 27, 1975***

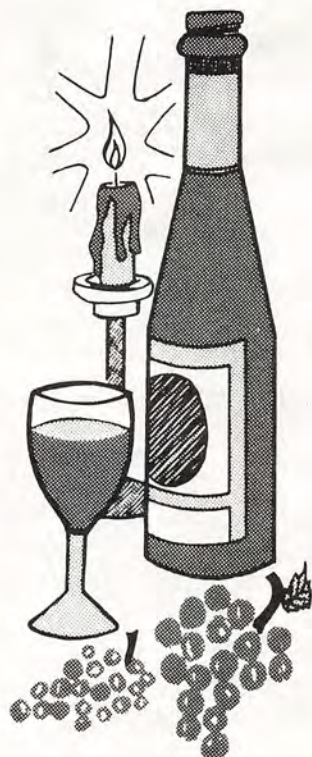
ARIZONA STATE 17, NEBRASKA 14

Dan Kush, the son of Arizona State Coach Frank Kush, kicked field goals of 27, 33 and 29 yards, the last with 4:50 remaining in the game, to prevent Nebraska from breaking the record for consecutive bowl victories.

Kush kicked his second field goal just before halftime, with no time on the clock,



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Todd Frain (80) hauls in a fourth-quarter TD pass in the 1985 Sugar Bowl.

to pull the host Sun Devils to within one point, at 7-6.

The game, between 11-0 Arizona State and 10-1 Nebraska, was a defensive struggle from the start.

The Sun Devils scored first, but the Cornhuskers took a 7-3 lead midway through the second quarter on Monte Anthony's one-yard touchdown run and Mike Coyle's extra-point conversion.

Nebraska went ahead 14-3 with 5:39 remaining in the third quarter, on another Anthony touchdown run and Coyle kick, but the Cornhuskers couldn't hold on. A Fred Mortensen-to-John Jefferson touchdown pass and two-point conversion tied the game at 14 and set the stage for Dan Kush.

Anthony rushed for 94 yards, and quarterback Terry Luck, who replaced starter Vince Ferragamo in the first quarter, completed 12 of 22 passes for 90 yards. Bobby Thomas caught six.

Jim Wightman and Clete Pillen combined for 21 tackles to lead Nebraska's Black Shirt defense.

Jefferson, who's gone on to stardom in the National Football League, caught eight passes for 113 yards in the game.

**Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl/Dec. 31, 1976**

NEBRASKA 27, TEXAS TECH 24

The Cornhuskers scored two third-quarter touchdowns to overcome a 24-14 deficit, then held on for the victory.

Richard Berns, who gained 118 yards, ran 18 yards for the first touchdown, and quarterback Vince Ferragamo passed 23

yards to Chuck Malito for the second with 7:01 left in the third quarter.

Ted Harvey and Kent Smith combined to block a punt and help set up the game-winning touchdown.

Texas Tech had the ball and an opportunity to win the game with less than two minutes remaining, but Cornhusker defensive tackle Ron Pruitt forced a fumble, which was recovered by end Reggie Gast to ensure the victory.

Malito, a senior from Lakewood, Colo., finished with three pass receptions for 107 yards to earn recognition as the game's Most Valuable Lineman.

Berns scored the first touchdown on a one-yard run nine minutes into the game, and Ferragamo capped an 80-yard drive, passing 22 yards to tight end Mark Dufresne for the second, 33 seconds before halftime.

Larry Valasek and Clete Pillen each made eight tackles to lead the defense.

Texas Tech quarterback Rodney Allison gained 282 yards and passed for two of the Red Raiders' three touchdowns.

**Liberty Bowl/Dec. 19, 1977**

NEBRASKA 21, NORTH CAROLINA 17

Randy Garcia, a senior from Los Angeles, came on to throw two fourth-quarter touchdown passes to lead the Cornhuskers to a come-from-behind vic-

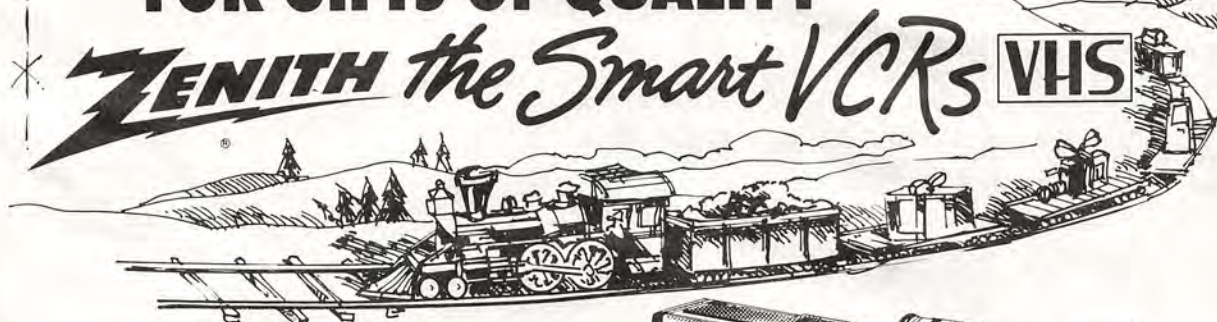


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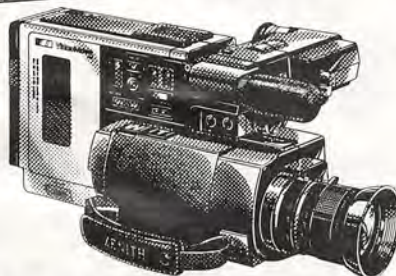
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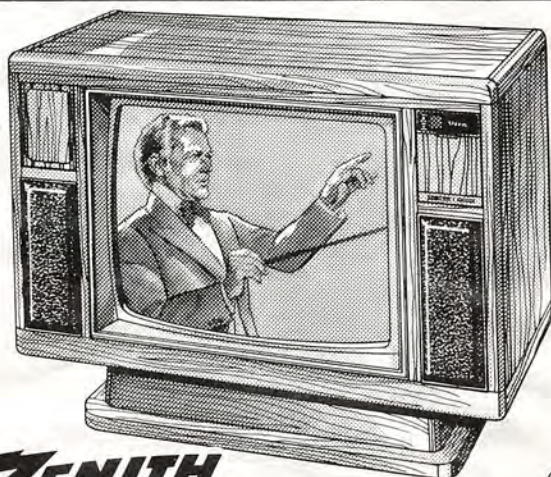
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tory.

The first, which capped a 74-yard drive, was set up when Nebraska linebacker Lee Kunz tipped a pass and tackle Barney Cotten intercepted.

On a first down from the Wolfpack 10-yard line, Garcia found wingback Curtis Craig wide-open in the end zone for the score, and Billy Todd added the second of his three extra-point kicks.

Garcia and split end Tim Smith teamed up for 34 yards and the second touchdown, with only 3:16 remaining.

Nebraska got the ball for the winning drive when defensive tackle Dan Pensick recovered a fumble at the Cornhusker 43-yard line. North Carolina had driven to the NU 23-yard line, where the Wolfpack faced a fourth-and-seven.

Dodie Donnell scored the Cornhuskers' first touchdown on a 15-yard run, with 11 minutes remaining in the first half.

Nebraska's starting quarterback, Tom Sorley, completed 11 of 13 passes for 105 yards. His .846 completion percentage established a Husker bowl record.

Kunz and defensive end George Andrews were the Cornhuskers' leading tacklers, Kunz with 11 and Andrews with 10.

Smith and Craig each had four receptions, Smith's for 78 yards. Donnell was Nebraska's top rusher, gaining 59 yards on eight carries.

### *Orange Bowl/Jan. 1, 1979*

OKLAHOMA 31, NEBRASKA 24

A valiant fourth-quarter rally fell short as the Cornhuskers lost a rematch with Oklahoma in the 45th Orange Bowl. Nebraska had defeated the Sooners 17-14 during the regular season.

Richard Berns capped a 78-yard drive from one yard out for the first of two Cornhusker touchdowns in the fourth quarter, and Tom Sorley tossed a two-yard touchdown pass to tight end Junior Miller on the final play of the game.

The second scoring drive began at the NU 42-yard line with 2:21 remaining.

The Cornhuskers scored first, on a 21-yard touchdown pass from Sorley to Tim Smith, six and a half minutes into the game. Billy Todd, who also kicked a 31-yard field goal, added the first of three extra-point kicks.

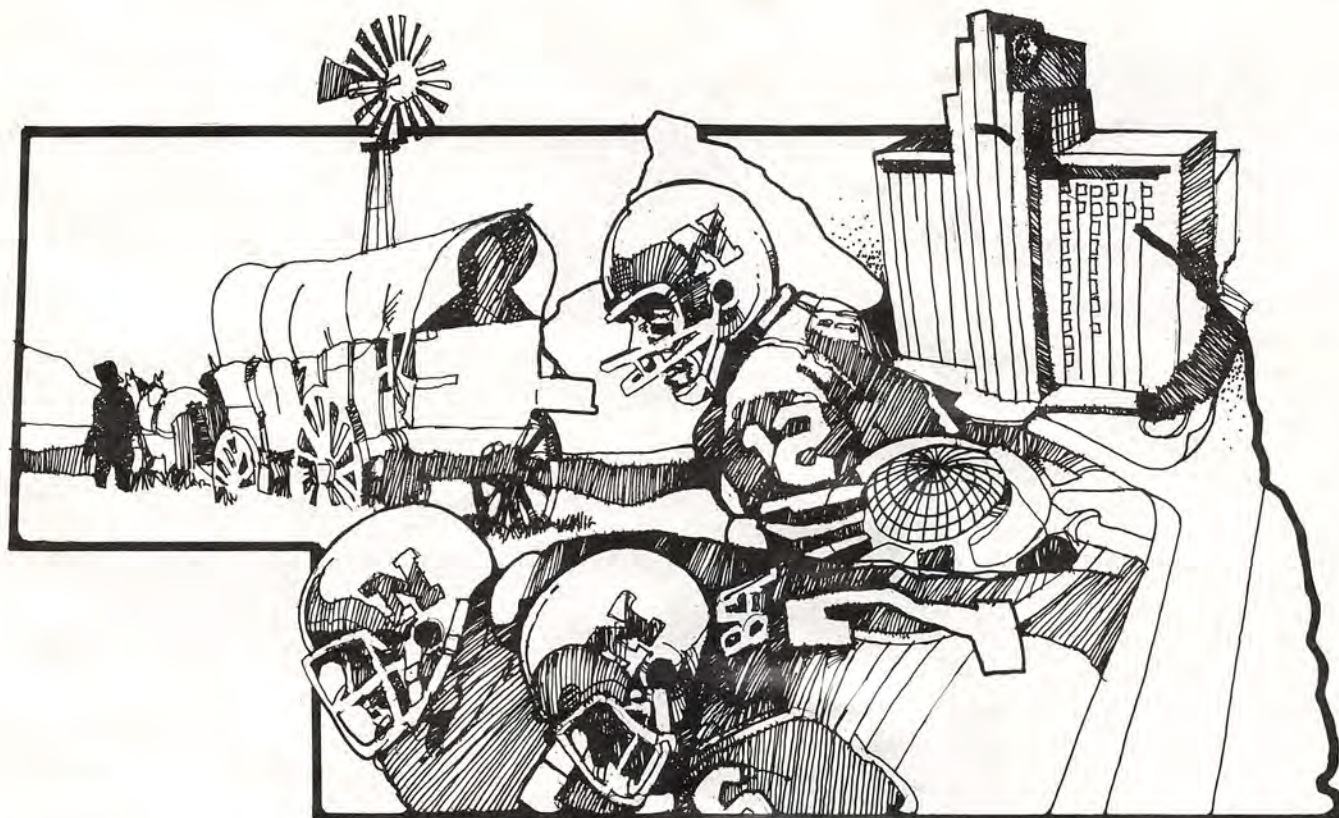
Sorley scored the game with 18 pass completions in 31 attempts for 220 yards. Wingback Kenny Brown caught five of those passes for 43 yards.

Berns and Isaiah Hipp were the Cornhuskers' leading rushers. Berns finished with 99 yards on 19 attempts. Hipp picked up 66 yards on 18 carries.

Defensive end George Andrews finished with a team-high 11 tackles. Nebraska linebackers Lee Kunz and Bruce

*Continued on page 28*





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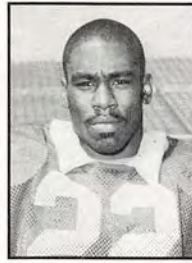
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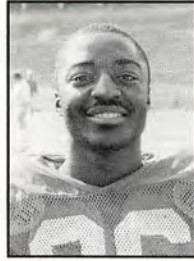




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# Wishbone

# for Nebraska?



# N

Don't look for it...

But it's been talked  
about by the Huskers!





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*"We've thought about it from time to time. We've got some people here who could run it pretty well." — Tom Osborne*

---

By Mike Babcock

**T**he question was posed to Coach Tom Osborne about the time Nebraska was preparing to play Colorado this season.

It seemed the sort of question Osborne might dismiss with a courteous laugh. "Have you ever thought about going to the wishbone?" the Cornhusker football coach was asked.

The wishbone? Nebraska?

You've got to be kidding.

Is this Candid Camera? Are we on the television show that plays practical jokes on famous people? Where's the hidden camera? The wishbone?

Send the person who asked that silly question back to Norman, Okla.

Osborne isn't one to dismiss any question as too trivial, which means he certainly has to answer more than his share in the course of a football season. But the wishbone? That's a little too much, right?

Wrong. "We've thought about it from time to time," said Osborne. "We've got some people here who could run it pretty well."

Actually, no one would dispute that. Doug DuBose and Keith Jones could be good wishbone halfbacks. McCathorn Clayton and Steve Taylor are excellent option quarterbacks. Without a doubt, they could learn to run a wishbone. But does that mean Osborne, one of the foremost practitioners of the I-formation offense, might be contemplating a major change in philosophy?

Will Cornhusker fans soon be talking about "lead arcs" and "load arcs" instead of "isos?" Definitely not. Sure, Nebraska has players who could run a wishbone-based attack, "but we don't know it very well," Osborne said. "This is a situation where we know the I-formation very well, and we're doing fairly well with that."

Given the Cornhuskers' offensive success during Osborne's 13 seasons as head coach, there's absolutely no reason to change.

A wishbone offense is ground-oriented, of course, and Nebraska has done quite well running with the football out of the I-formation.

In the last eight seasons, the Cornhuskers have ranked first in the nation in rushing four times (1980, 1982, 1983, 1985), and they've been second twice and third twice. During that time, Nebraska also has ranked first in the nation in total offense twice (1978, 1982) and first in scoring offense twice (1982, 1983).

Seven times under Osborne, the Cornhuskers have ranked in the nation's top 10 in all three offensive categories.

Still, it's fun to speculate on a Nebraska wishbone. Osborne's offensive genius is such that he could add a wrinkle or two. "I think we could go to the wishbone, and probably two years from now, we could be pretty good," he said. "But next year, we might be a .500 football team. I don't know how people around here would tolerate that."

"If they'd be willing to say, 'We'll just space off a year to let you guys learn the system,' you could probably do it. You could go visit Air Force, and they'd tell you something. You could visit Army, and you could get out all of Oklahoma's old films..."

However, no matter how many things you thought you knew about it, "there are always going to be little things in terms of technique, a reverse-shoulder block or how to read something with the quarterback, that you don't really pick up until you've done it for awhile."

Coaches often visit other schools during spring practice to exchange ideas, but ideas require time to implement. Nobody changes overnight.

"We can spend two weeks with people on the I-formation, and yet until they go out and run it for a year or two, most teams can't approximate what we do," said Osborne.

So it doesn't look like the Huskers will be switching to the wishbone. "That's a long answer to say we won't," Osborne said. "But I have thought about a lot of formations from time-to-time."



The hypothetical question Osborne answered wasn't based entirely on whimsy. The wishbone was often discussed this Big Eight season for a couple of very good reasons—Oklahoma and Colorado.

The Sooners returned to a traditional wishbone offense and won the conference championship, outright, beating Nebraska, 27-7, in the Cornhuskers' final game of the regular season. With only one loss going into its Orange Bowl battle with Penn State on New Year's night, Oklahoma has a realistic shot at the national title.

The wishbone has something to do with that.

Colorado's success with the wishbone may be even more dramatic, although the Buffaloes are far from being a national championship contender. Coach Bill McCartney turned to the wishbone after a 1-10 season a year ago, with the result being a 7-4 record and the Buffaloes' first post-season bowl since 1977. Colorado will play Washington in the Freedom Bowl at Anaheim, Calif., on Dec. 30.

The Buffaloes' resurgence has been dramatic, and the wishbone definitely has had something to do with it.

Last season, Colorado's offense was pass-oriented and ranked last in the nation in rushing, averaging about 59 yards per game. This season, the Buffaloes ranked ninth in the nation, with an average of 259.8.

When the Big Eight Skywriters visited Boulder, Colo., prior to the season, McCartney admitted the wishbone wasn't exactly sweeping the nation, "but it probably will be after we're done with it."

Apparently, McCartney wasn't kidding.

He was voted Big Eight Coach of the Year because of his foresight.

The wishbone, made famous by Oklahoma and Texas in the 1960s and 1970s, had fallen on hard times. But NCAA statistics show that five of the seven Division I wishbone teams in 1984 went to bowl games. This season, five out of nine wishbone teams accepted bowl bids.

The nine teams had a combined record of 62-39 (.614). The best were Air Force (11-1), Oklahoma (10-1), Arkansas (9-2) and Army (8-3).

According to Osborne, an effective wishbone attack depends on having a good quarterback and a good fullback.

Oklahoma has an outstanding young fullback in Lydell Carr, but the Sooners' wishbone didn't click until freshman quarterback Jamelle Holieway was forced into action when sophomore Troy Aikman was sidelined by injury.

In Oklahoma's 27-7 victory over Nebraska, Holieway gained 148 yards rushing and passing, and he scored two touchdowns. "You have to look at Oklahoma before and after Holieway," who ranks with the best wishbone quarterbacks

in Sooner history, Osborne said. "He seems to be more elusive than almost any of them.

"He's a lot like J.C. Watts, but he seems to be more productive than Watts. Watts had some big days, but he seems to have big days every day."

Colorado's offense was built around sophomore quarterback Mark Hatcher and two fullbacks, Anthony Weatherspoon and Eric McCarty.

Hatcher was injured and didn't play against the Cornhuskers.

The wishbone is an option offense, in

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*"Our main objective is to get the ball from point A to point B as quickly as we can." —  
Tom Osborne.  
Nebraska has done that as well as any team in the country since Bob Devaney took control of the program in 1962.*

---

which the quarterback usually has three options. As a result, "it stretches you on defense," said Osborne. "At the start of the play, neither the fullback nor the quarterback knows what's going to happen. It's all predicated on what the defensive tackle does. If the tackle widens, the fullback's going to get the ball. If the tackle closes down, then the quarterback keeps the ball, and it depends on what the defensive end does.

"If the end goes for the quarterback, then he's going to pitch the ball. If the end widens, then the quarterback will keep it."

Defending against the wishbone requires extreme discipline. One mental mistake can lead to total disaster.

For instance, "maybe two people wind up on the quarterback, and nobody is on the pitch man. If that happens, it's a footrace," Osborne said. "You have to have intelligent (defensive) players. It's not like a lot of people think. You just don't line up against the wishbone and go tackle the guy with the football."

With the wishbone, it's not always clear who has the ball. That's why, in practicing to play a wishbone team, Nebraska uses some defensive drills in which the scout squad offense doesn't have a ball. "That may sound crazy, but if you don't have a ball out there, everybody learns to play his responsibility," said Osborne.

"The guy who has the fullback tackles the fullback. The guy who has the quarterback tackles the quarterback, and the guy who has the pitch man tackles the pitch man."

Discipline is the key.

McCartney considered several offensive philosophies, including the Veer-T, before settling on the wishbone. After much study, he decided Colorado could benefit most from some type of option attack. "I felt very confident in making the decision," he said.

"We had taken note of the teams that had turned their programs around, and with very few exceptions, all had something to do with option football. That intrigued me. We flew in option coaches from all over the country to pick their brains. It became apparent that option schemes were the answer, and the wishbone seemed to fit our personnel better than anything else.

"Option football allows you to employ blocking schemes that give you an advantage when you don't have quite as much talent as the opponent up-front. You have angles and schemes that aren't available to you in other offenses, whether they be pro-style attack or the power attack of the I-formation. With the wishbone, you're allowed to leave guys unblocked at the point of attack in order to double up on others."

That was particularly important at Colorado, where numbers had become a problem. The Buffaloes have had good players; they just haven't had enough to be successful in the Big Eight.

McCartney was looking for an edge, something by which he could compensate for his team's lack of depth.

Offense linemen don't have to sustain their blocks quite as long in a wishbone system, either, and "we need to be able to do that here. That's why Air Force has made a living with option football," he said. "They've taken guys who are under-size and yet, with big line splits and good blocking schemes, have competed above their ability level."

Nevertheless, the time had to be right to make the switch.

Colorado probably couldn't have been successful with a wishbone attack any sooner because "I didn't have the size, strength or depth in the offensive line to make this change," said McCartney, who maintained all along the change wasn't a last-gasp measure.

"We just had to bridge that gap to where we could get some size and numbers and



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some strength up-front before we could entertain the thought of going to an attack that could strike on the ground with some degree of authority. Also, if I had done it last year, I would have had to go with a freshman quarterback (Hatcher) who wouldn't have had the advantage of spring practice."

Though it's obviously not a passing offense, the wishbone "presents the optimum passing situation," according to Osborne.

Wishbone teams "often get one-on-one coverage because you have to involve so many people in covering the run," he said. "Then, about the time you get everyone up playing the options, that's when some receiver releases and is suddenly 30 yards behind everybody, running right down the middle of the field. The passing game can kill you."

"They may only throw it three or four times, but if they hit two or three of them, and they're 50- to 60-yard plays, it can finish you."

During preparations for a wishbone team, "we have to spend a lot of time on pass defense even though that may only represent 10 percent of what they'll do," said Osborne.

Oklahoma attempted only four passes in the Nebraska game and completed only one, but it was a 38-yarder from Holieway to tight end Keith Jackson on a third-down-and-four from the Sooner 16-yard line.

Three plays later, Holieway sprinted 43 yards for the touchdown that led to a 14-0 Oklahoma lead.

According to Osborne, the changeover to a wishbone offense also can help a team's defense, and that may have been the key to Colorado's success this season. For one thing, practicing every day against the wishbone made the Buffaloes' defense more aggressive. For another, when properly run, the wishbone can be a ball control attack, which means the defense has to spend less time on the field.

A rested defense is a better defense.

McCartney agrees with Osborne's assessment of the correlation between Colorado's improved defense and the wishbone. "Our linemen love it because now they can fire out and hit people. They spent most of last year backing up (in pass protection)," he said.

The new-found offensive aggressiveness rubbed off on the defense.

"If you look at it game-in and game-out, the teams that run and win tend to have better defenses," said Osborne.

The wishbone's popularity began to lag, in part, because teams saw it enough to devise ways of defending against it. Under those circumstances, it can be a liability. With all the ball-handling, it's high-risk, and it's not a good come-from-behind attack.

Since only nine teams used wishbone at-

tacks this season, opponents weren't likely to see it more than two or three times, and "the best friend of a wishbone team is the lack of other teams playing the same offense," said Osborne. "When Oklahoma was the only team on our schedule that ran the wishbone and we didn't see it until the 11th game, they had a tremendous advantage. We had four practices to try to stop an entirely different offensive concept."

"If you begin to see a lot of wishbone teams, maybe three or four a season, then it tends to work against the wishbone teams because everybody is seeing it, and everybody figures out how to play it."

Oklahoma and Colorado were the only true wishbone teams Nebraska played this season, although New Mexico ran a few wishbone plays.

Ironically, the Cornhuskers resembled a wishbone team in the way they were forced to use the pass this season. Going into the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl game against Michigan on New Year's Day in Tempe, Ariz., Nebraska has completed only 38.2 percent of its passes, the Cornhuskers' lowest percentage since the 1960 season (33.3).

Nebraska has had to look for the big pass play instead of the passing consistency that has characterized Osborne's other teams. "We don't necessarily want it to be

that way, but that's the way we are," he said.

The pass is one of three general categories into which Osborne breaks down an offense.

The others are "power football, where we just more or less are running basic plays, relatively low-risk plays where you hand the ball off to somebody and he goes straight ahead or off-tackle or around the end," and "option football, where we're going to try to finesse somebody, where somebody is left unblocked and we're going to option the football off him."

"That involves a little more risk, of course, because you're often pitching the ball, having to make last-minute decisions with the football and you run more risk of a turnover," he said.

No matter which method of moving the football is used, however, Osborne has one goal. "Our objective is to get the ball from point A to point B as quickly and as efficiently as we can."

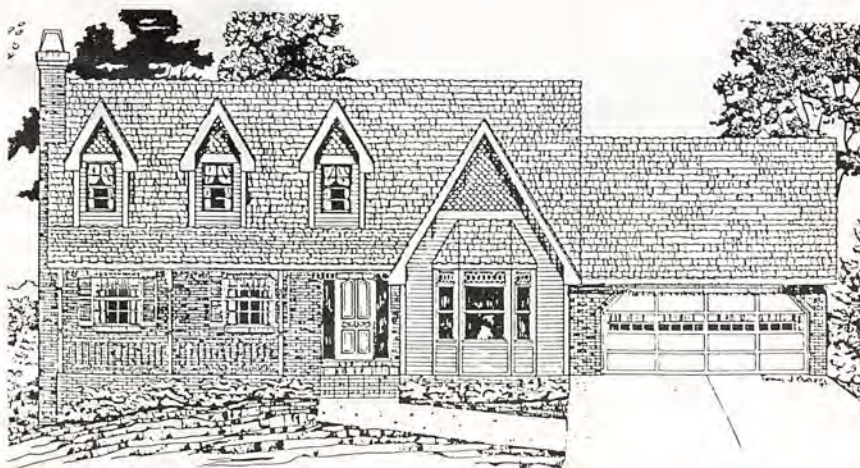
Nebraska has done that as well as any team in the country since Bob Devaney took control of the program in 1962.

Given the Cornhuskers' offensive success, there's really no reason to consider turning to the wishbone.

But even Osborne will admit it makes for some interesting discussion. ♦

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## Assistant Clete Fischer...

...will wrap up his long and distinguished Nebraska football career when the Huskers play Michigan in the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl on New Year's Day in Tempe, Ariz.

Fischer has been a Cornhusker for 30 years, 26 of them as a coach following his four seasons as a player.

He also coached for 12 seasons at the high school level, making stops at St. Edward, his alma mater, Columbus St. Bonaventure, Omaha South and Midland, Texas, and played one season in the Na-

tional Football League with the New York Giants.

Fischer has coached Nebraska's offensive line since 1969.

He announced his retirement, which is effective after the Fiesta Bowl, prior to the Cornhuskers' final home game against Kansas. After the 56-6 victory, Fischer was carried off the field by senior center Bill Lewis and sophomore offensive guard John McCormick.

Players like Lewis and McCormick made coaching a joy. "The fact the kids



Clete Fischer (left) is congratulated by Tom Osborne as the veteran NU assistant is introduced at his final game at Memorial Stadium.

## Looking Back On 1985 and Ahead to the Fiesta Bowl

who came here worked hard and were a pleasure to work with made my job the best I could find," Fischer said after his final game in Memorial Stadium.

During the pre-game ceremony in which Nebraska's 26 seniors were introduced to an audience of 75,863, Fischer's name was the first to be called.

"It's the only job I ever had. I'll miss it. Coaching is the only thing I've ever done."

Fischer will be replaced on the coaching staff by Dan Young, who's been a graduate and volunteer assistant in charge of the Husker freshman-junior varsity team the last three seasons.

### recruiting begins

Unofficially, at least, Nebraska's first three football recruits this season are Gerry

Gdowski, Kurt Hasley and Shane Lair, three in-state athletes who have made verbal commitments to accept scholarships.

Under NCAA rules, they can't sign letters-of-intent until Feb. 12.

Gdowski, who's from Fremont High School, is a two-time Super-Stater, as a quarterback last season and a defensive back this fall. He may try split end or the secondary at Nebraska. He stands 6-4, weighs 180 pounds and runs the 40-yard dash in :04.5.

Gdowski is an excellent student, carrying a 4.0 grade-point average.

Hasley is a 6-3, 240-pound lineman from DeWitt-Tri County High School, and Lair is a 6-1, 210-pound fullback and linebacker from Lincoln High School.

According to Coach Tom Osborne, Nebraska hopes to "recruit across the board. It would be nice to get some defensive linemen. We had some good linemen this last year, maybe a little heavier on the offensive side of the ball, and I think we'd be shooting for a great running back.

"But with 30 scholarships, and giving up 22 or 23, you've just about got to recruit someone at every position."

Nebraska recruiting coordinator Steve Pederson said the Cornhuskers will probably be able to offer only 21 scholarships this winter.

### Osborne meets the press

Coach Tom Osborne participated in a teleconference in the varsity lounge at the south end of Memorial Stadium prior to the beginning of practices for the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl. Osborne touched on a variety of subjects during the 45-minute press conference.

Some excerpts follow.

On the Cornhuskers' 27-7 loss to Oklahoma in the final game of the regular season:

"I was disappointed in our production at Oklahoma. That's the one thing that kind of gnaws at you a little bit. I thought Oklahoma had a great football team, and yet I thought we could play with them and have a decent chance to win the game. We didn't do that. I don't think we probably played as well as we could have played.

"Up until the Oklahoma game, this was probably the most improved football team I've been around, from start to finish, that we've had here. But the Oklahoma game kind of puts you back to square one because the question you have to ask yourself is, 'Is Oklahoma that good or did we really not play very well?' I think it was probably a combination of the two.

"The two big plays early, the tight end



reverse and the 43-yard touchdown run by (Jamel) Holieway which put us behind 14-0 about eight minutes into the game, probably made it much more of a mismatch than it really was. When you get down 14-0 to a team that has a great defense, it's kind of difficult to do the things we do best — run pitches, isos and dives.

"We were hoping to wear 'em out a little bit and maybe by the fourth quarter, if it was still close, our physical strength would take effect. But we really didn't have the ball enough; we didn't stay close enough, to get into the kind of game we wanted. I thought we'd probably have to win that game 14-10, 17-14, 10-7. I didn't think it was going to be one of those games we were going to win 29-28.

"There were times we played well. Pick out all but maybe seven or eight plays, and we played them on pretty even terms. But you can't just disregard seven or eight plays.

"There were times I knew we were going to get whipped one-on-one, but we made some mental mistakes down at Oklahoma, some technique mistakes that are not characteristic of us. I don't know where they came from. That's what surprised me. That's what drives me crazy. If we had gone out and played as well as we could and got beat 27-7, I'm the first guy to say that's okay. We'll live with that. But I don't think, overall, we played as well as we could.

"It wasn't lack of effort. We tried hard. We just weren't as well coordinated as we should have been."

On the emotional aspects of the Oklahoma loss:

"I think people were fairly happy with us when we were 9-1 and ranked No. 2 in the country. You tend to be a little bit paranoid in coaching; you tend to overreact. I understand that. But still I think, even discounting that, there's a lot of unhappiness in Nebraska right now because of the Oklahoma game. We're 9-2, we're not 9-1 any more, and we're only No. 7 now.

"It's funny. If you're at Colorado and you're going to the Fiesta Bowl, with a 9-2 record, everybody would be tickled pink. It depends a lot on where you are, what your situation is.

"I think it (the loss) shook us up a little bit. I think offensively, we really had pretty good momentum, but when you go in and don't score an offensive point, it's bound to shake your confidence.

"Defensively, we'd gone without allowing a touchdown for 15 quarters, and then we gave up 27 points. I would say it's thrown us off-balance. We're struggling a

little bit with self-confidence, self-image, but I think by Jan. 1 it isn't anything we can't overcome. Usually, when you win, things seem a whole lot better than they are, and when you lose, they seem a lot worse than they are.

"You tend to magnify your mistakes when you lose."

On Michigan and playing the Wolverines in the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl:

"Defensively, they're certainly in the same league with Oklahoma. They're different, I think, on defense. They play exceptionally well as a unit. They're awfully

was very, very slight. Their game (won by Iowa 12-10) proved that. Maybe the difference was who had the home field advantage. Ohio State has a fine football team, but I think the two best teams in that conference are obviously Michigan and Iowa.

"They (the Wolverines) could just as easily be in the Rose Bowl as Iowa."

On freshman Steve Taylor's chances of starting at quarterback for the Cornhuskers in the Fiesta Bowl:

"That's possible. I would say right now I wouldn't plan on it, but there are a lot of

## Osborne Meets The Press



Dan Young.

well-coached. They're very quick. They don't stay blocked long. They react to the ball well.

"Oklahoma might have been a little bigger on defense. It appears Michigan has given up a few more yards, but when it comes down to getting the ball into the end zone, scoring points, Michigan has been even stingier than Oklahoma.

"Michigan has always been a team I've admired greatly from a coaching standpoint. Bo (Schembechler) and his assistants are certainly among the top three or four staffs in the country in terms of preparing teams and having teams that are well-drilled and well-disciplined, playing the game the way it ought to be played.

"We thought in looking at Big 10 teams, the difference between Iowa and Michigan

positions we have where players with talent could conceivably move into the picture. Again, we've talked here for 45 minutes, and I can see the headlines: 'Taylor May Start Against Michigan.' Don't do that to me, fellas. Just say we'll evaluate the situation. I would say for the record, right now, we're not planning to start Steve Taylor in the bowl. It would take a lot of things to go just exactly right before that would ever happen.

"It's maybe a five percent chance, okay, so let's not get carried away.

"We'll go by practice, see how well they (the quarterbacks) practice, how consistently they do things. There was a lot of comment all year about how much Steve Taylor ought to play. How much Steve Taylor plays will depend on how well he



handles practice and how consistent he is.

"The same with (linebacker) LeRoy Etienne and (defensive end) Broderick Thomas. If they can get the check calls and seem to have a good command of what our defense is, they could play. The most limiting thing for those guys is not physical talent.

"It's just been doing the right thing at the right time. When we're satisfied that they can, if they're better players, they'll play."

On the use of Taylor during the second half of the Oklahoma game:

"I thought, 'We'll run fairly well. But we're not going to run over these people (the Sooners), and we've got to get to the weakest part of their team, which is the secondary.

"There's two ways you can get there. One is option football, making their secondary come up and tackle your backs. The other is to throw the ball. That's why I felt McCathorn Clayton and possibly Steve Taylor had to fit into the picture because we wanted to run option football. When we got down 20-0, I felt, 'Well, now we'd better go with Steve Taylor. He's probably a better thrower, and he may make more mistakes, but he's got the only chance to make big plays. I felt that we would have to throw well against Oklahoma to do well, offensively, and we didn't."

On the state's intense interest in Nebraska football:

"I think there are a lot of things in Nebraska to be proud of. We've got good people, good land, good water. Agriculture has been very good, and yet we don't have spectacular things. We don't have mountains; we don't have beaches. There's not a lot of diversification. We don't have other professional athletic teams, and we don't have other (major) colleges, so it seems like there's an awful lot of focus on Nebraska football.

"It's a focus that goes on year-round, and it's one thing people seem to be able to rally around. People seem to be proud of it, and that's good because it's better to be in a situation where there's interest in something rather than where people are apathetic. The other side of the coin is, when you disappoint people, they're very disappointed. Being the focus of that much attention has its drawbacks as well as its positive features.

"That's just the way it is. Very frankly, other than hunting and fishing there aren't that many recreational outlets here, so Nebraska football gets a lot of attention."

On the Cornhuskers' passing problems this season:

"We're not a well-balanced football



Tom Rathman

team, and people have called that to my attention over the year. It isn't that I'm totally oblivious to it. But when you're throwing the ball at about a 38 percent clip, the question is, do you go out there and throw it 50 times so you can complete 15, just to say you've thrown the ball? Or do you do what you can do best?

"People aren't blind, and they're going to play us as a runing team. You can't wave a magic wand and say, all of a sudden, we're going to throw the ball at 60 percent. We may come out (in the Fiesta Bowl game) and throw better. It's something we'll work on certainly. We'll try to throw better.

"But a lot of times, what you do in a game is dependent on what you can do.

"I thought if Travis (Turner) held up this season, we'd be pretty good (at passing). Travis isn't a 60 to 65 percent passer, but he's probably a 50 to 55 percent thrower. When he kind of got banged up, I thought it might be a little tougher, and we'd have to be more like a wishbone team."

On senior fullback Tom Rathman and junior I-back Doug DuBose:

"Rathman has had a great year. He's a great blocker and runs very well.

"Doug started out running about as well as any I-back we've had through the first three games. I thought he was just tremendous. But then he got hurt and missed the better part of a game and three-quarters and played the next two or three games sub-par. I don't know if he ever really rebounded to where he was. He played well the last three games or so, but I don't know if he's ever gotten back to where he was the first three games of the year.

"I think he's healed up now. When Doug's right, he's a great back and so is Rathman. But the critical thing is what happens up-front. We had good backs down at Oklahoma, but we didn't block very well."

On practicing for the Fiesta Bowl:

"You always have a problem preparing for a bowl game because there are so many factors that are difficult to control. One factor is the weather. In Lincoln we're limited with indoor practice areas. We do have some, which we're very grateful for. But I know Michigan has a full indoor field, which enables them to throw the ball and do some kicking (when the weather's bad). We almost have to get outside to do any throwing or kicking. We can do a fair job on the running game indoors.

"We're hoping we can get a few days outside.

"Another thing you're never sure of is exactly how hard to work. It's easy to work too hard and have your team go stale, and it's easy to not get enough work done. The timing factor always seems to be a critical issue on bowl games. Nobody has a perfect formula.

"It's always a guessing game as to exactly what you need to get done and how quickly you need to do it." ♦





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**W**hen Nebraska plays Michigan in the Sunkist Fiesta Bowl at Tempe, Ariz., on New Year's Day, 25 Cornhusker seniors will be suiting up for the final time.

Another would like to suit up, but he can't. He'll be there in Sun Devil Stadium, but not to play.

Travis Turner didn't know it at the time, but his college career ended with a pair of incomplete passes in the closing seconds of Nebraska's 27-7 loss to Oklahoma. The final game of the regular season also was Turner's final game as a Cornhusker.

Accepting the end wasn't easy.

"I thought I'd have one more chance for a good game, but I guess it's over," Turner said. "There's still a lot of football in me, but my body just won't let me play. I want to play so bad, and I can't. I hate the whole

situation. I feel like a quitter."

Actually, Turner had little choice.

Less than a week after the Oklahoma game, he underwent reconstructive surgery on his right knee. He's had the problem since last April, when he suffered a torn cruciate ligament in the first quarter of Nebraska's annual spring intrasquad game.

The knee was scoped, and Turner worked hard to rehabilitate it during the summer. But "he was never quite the same," said Cornhusker Coach Tom Osborne. "In terms of leadership and knowledge of our overall offense, Travis was the best prepared to play this year, but his physical ability has really been limited."

Bill Lewis, one of the 25 Cornhusker seniors still healthy enough to play against Michigan, knows how uncertain a college football career is. He was one of Ne-

braska's 24 scholarship recruits in 1981. Only eight remain.

Shane Swanson didn't redshirt and completed his eligibility last season, and Mike Rozier finished his career two years ago after transferring from Coffeyville, Kan., Junior College. The other 14 fell by the wayside.

A college football career is "kind of a survival thing," according to Osborne. "It's a selective process."

"You're selected first out of high school, and there's a selection process that goes on here. You have to have some pretty pretty special personal qualities to hang with us for four or five years," Osborne said.

"You really have to endure a lot of things. Guys who are left after five years have shown a lot of tenacity, a lot of endurance and they know a little bit about dealing with adversity."





Turner and Lewis know a lot about it. "When I was a freshman, we supposedly had the worst recruiting class in 25 years or something like that," said Lewis. "But it's kind of hard to say that when you've got Jim Skow, Tom Rathman, Todd Frain, Mike Knox, Paul Miles . . . people like that."

Turner belongs on the list, too.

Basically, Turner's varsity career ended where it began, at Owen Field in Norman, Okla. He was included on Nebraska's 55-man travel roster for the Oklahoma game as a freshman in 1981.

Turner Gill had suffered a leg injury in the Iowa State game the previous week, and Osborne needed a third quarterback as a back-up to Mark Mauer and Bruce Mathison. Craig Sundberg couldn't go because he was near the end of a redshirt season. Todd Zart, the other freshman quar-

terback, was having difficulty taking center snaps.

That left Turner. "A lot of people were shocked," he said.

"I was one of them."

Since he'd made the trip to Oklahoma, people were less surprised when Osborne summoned Turner to Miami during Nebraska's Orange Bowl preparations for Clemson. Mauer was having problems with a sore arm and so was Zart, who had made the bowl trip instead of Turner.

Again, his name made the headlines.

Even though he didn't play in either game, Turner gained some notoriety. "Then I kind of dropped out of sight for two years," he said.

Turner re-emerged in the spring of 1984, after Gill's graduation. "I knew I had to do it then if I was ever going to. If I hadn't played well and earned a scholar-

ship, I don't know what I would've done," Turner said.

"I really don't."

He probably would've tried harder. By then, he'd come too far to quit.

By his own admission, Turner was an average quarterback on an average team as a senior at Scottsbluff High School, where he played for Coach Brad Jenkins, now a Nebraska graduate assistant. Nevertheless, he walked on at Nebraska, a school he grew up disliking.

Turner was born in Denver and grew up in Colorado. "I didn't move to Scottsbluff until I was a freshman in high school, and my folks have moved back to Loveland, so it's hard to break those ties," he said. "Not to offend people from Scottsbluff, but I'm a Colorado native."

Turner probably would have tried to play football at Colorado if he had fol-

## *Turner Typifies Senior Class That Battled The Odds*



Turner (far left) is congratulated by Head Coach Tom Osborne prior to final home game, and hands off to Doug DuBose (right).



lowed his heart. But he was analytical about his choice of schools.

"Nebraska didn't take any scholarship quarterbacks when I was a senior, and Colorado took four," said Turner. "I didn't think I had that much of a chance there, so I used good judgment and came here. Besides, when you have a chance to play for a coach like Tom Osborne, you take it."

Turner spent his freshman year at Nebraska playing for Frank Solich and backing up another walkon, Zart, with the Cornhusker junior varsity.

The third-string jayvee quarterback, Mark Peterson, transferred to Nebraska Wesleyan, where he rewrote the passing section of the school record book during a successful, three-year career.

Zart quit because of injuries.

Turner, who completed 18 of 31 passes for 191 yards and one touchdown on the junior varsity, stayed on, even though he got little encouragement as a redshirt in 1982. "Nobody really said much to me," Turner said. "I heard mostly negative things. People wondered when I was going to quit."

He persisted, however, because "I thought I was in a good position."

By the spring of 1984, Gill and Nate Mason would both be graduated, and he would get his chance...

Lewis was Turner's junior varsity teammate in the fall of 1981. But his arrival at



Bill Lewis

Nebraska was much more heralded than that of Turner. Lewis had been an all-state athlete at Sioux City, Iowa, East High School.

Even so, he was unsure of himself that first fall as a Cornhusker.

"I knew I'd be playing against people who were highly recruited, high school All-Americans, guys who were supposedly God's gift to football. I figured I was going to get killed," said Lewis.

Many of his freshman teammates left. They quit or transferred or suffered injuries that prevented them from continuing.

Doug Larscheid, the first good friend Lewis made at Nebraska, returned to Green Bay, Wis., after two seasons because he was homesick. He tried playing football at a smaller college, but eventually gave it up.

Pat Connor, Lewis' freshman roommate, was bothered by injuries and finally transferred to Kansas, where he completed his football eligibility as the Jayhawks' deep snapper last season.

John Kline, one of the middle guards against whom Lewis lined up during practice as a freshman, had knee problems which kept him from ever playing with Nebraska's varsity.

Jeff Bawdon, a fullback and linebacker from Williston, N.D., and Tony Newton, a defensive end from Pasadena, Calif., both transferred.

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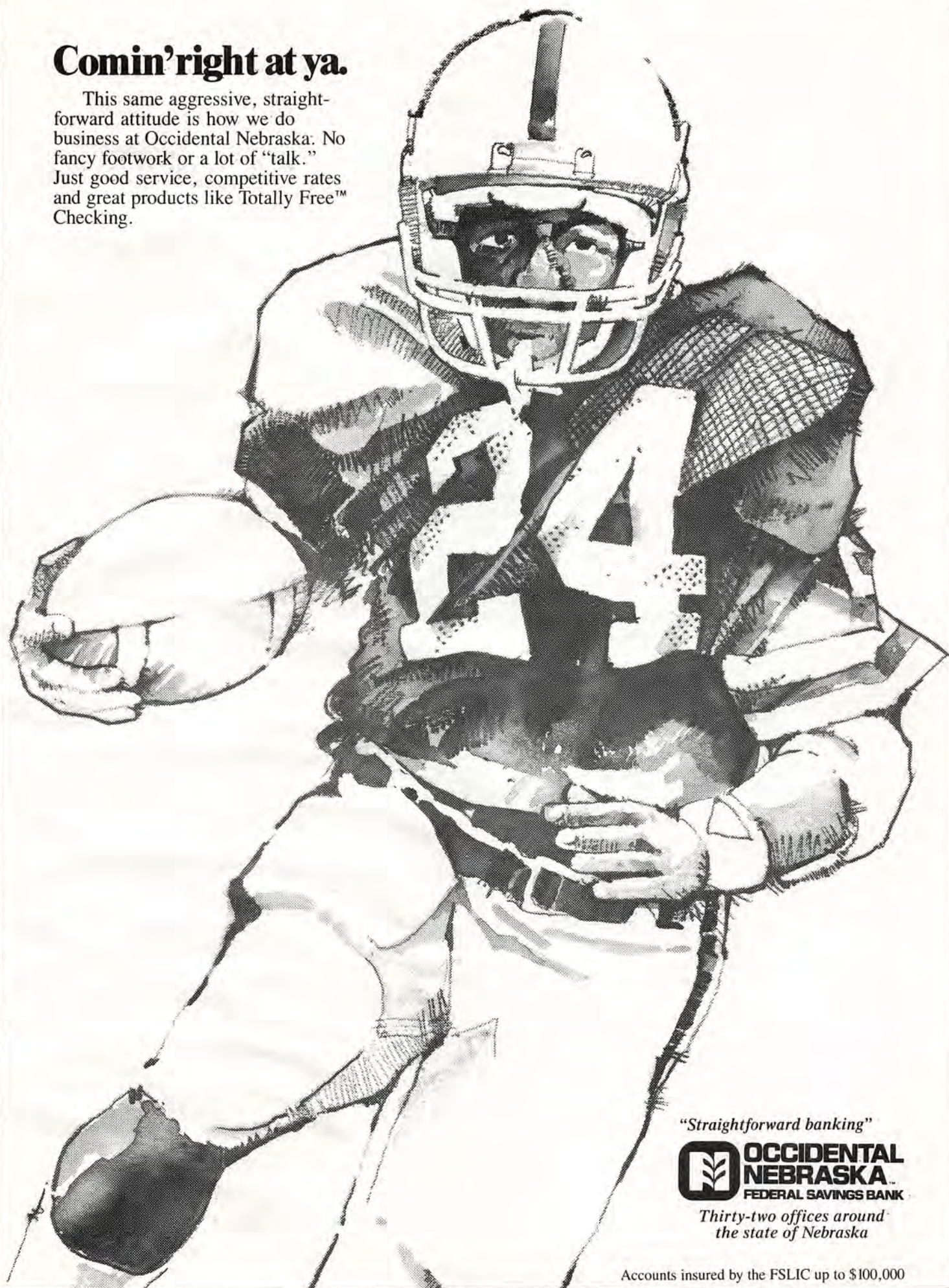
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Mark Davis turned his attention to baseball and was a three-year regular for Coach John Sanders' Cornhuskers.

Todd Fisher's promising career in the Nebraska secondary came to a premature end because of nagging injuries.

But Lewis was a survivor.

He's proud of this senior class, for which he's a captain, along with linebacker Mike Knox and defensive tackle Jim Skow.

Nebraska's Class of 1985 includes only one player who hasn't redshirted, linebacker Chad Daffer, a scholarship recruit in 1982.

The other seniors either were freshmen with Lewis and Turner in 1981 or transfers, like offensive guard Brian Blankenship, who came from UNO, cornerback Dennis Watkins, who made stops at Kentucky State and Northeastern Illinois, and tight end Brian Moore, who started out at the University of Mississippi.

Blankenship, Watkins, Turner and Moore are among the 16 senior walkons.

Of the scholarship recruits in 1981, Skow has been the biggest surprise, according to Lewis. That's not because of the way he's played but rather because of his position, said Lewis.

When Skow, an All-American, arrived at Nebraska following his senior year at Omaha Roncalli High School, he weighed less than 215 pounds.

"The first time I saw Jim, I thought, 'He can't play; he's not big enough. Just look at him,'" Lewis said. "Jim's shown everybody size isn't everything. I'd say he's the best defensive lineman in the country, at least in my opinion."

Cornhusker defensive coordinator Charlie McBride calls Skow the best pass rusher he's ever coached at Nebraska.

"I don't know if Jim was such a surprise to the coaches, but he's probably one they figured wouldn't end up playing as a defensive tackle," said Lewis, who's done his share of changing positions in the line.

Skow was forced to sit out his first fall at Nebraska with injuries.

Skow, Lewis, Knox and Turner, as well as all the other senior, "have really shown good leadership," Osborne said. "I think they've had to for us to have a good team because we've got a lot of young players and a lot of players who were inexperienced going into the season. I think a player like Bill Lewis, for instance, has been very impressive to me this year, not just from his physical performance but also because he's been a very good leader."

"I really didn't see that from Bill his first four years," said Osborne.

Turner has been equally impressive, not only because of his leadership but also because of the courage he's shown.

His knee deteriorated to the point at which he was "getting some slippage in it every practice, and that wasn't doing the joint any good."

Osborne and Turner talked frequently about the knee during the season, and it was Osborne who finally suggested he not wait to have the surgery.

"Coach isn't blind. He saw the pain I was in the last three weeks (of the season). It was hard just getting through practice," Turner said.

He began fall camp on the first team and played in all 11 regular-season games, completing 21 of 55 passes for 418 yards and three touchdowns. He also ran for a touchdown.

But Turner lacked the mobility he showed as a junior. "I would imagine that if we put a stopwatch on Travis right now, he could probably run about a :05.340. He was probably :04.7 last year," Osborne said prior to Turner's reconstructive surgery.

Turner has provided encouragement and advice for Nebraska's young quarterbacks, sophomores McCathorn Clayton, Clete Blakeman and Jeff Taylor, and freshman Steve Taylor, throughout the season, and he hopes he can continue to contribute to the Cornhuskers' Fiesta Bowl preparations.

"I'd like to go with the team and encourage those other guys," said Turner, who's given considerable thought to a coaching career.

Naturally, he'd like to be getting ready to play against Michigan, which boasts one of the best defenses in college football. But "I haven't been able to move or do the things I used to do," he said during a press conference at which he announced his decision.

He might have been able to continue, but "I was just kidding myself."

It's tough surviving five full seasons as a college football player.

Ask Turner or Lewis or any of the Cornhuskers' other seniors.

Skow, Knox, Rathman, Blankenship, Watkins, Miles, Daffer, Frain, Moore, Gregg Reeves, Brad Smith, Roger Lindstrom, Tim Roth, Scott Tucker, Todd Proffitt, Dan Wingard, Guy Rozier, Ken Shead, Brian Pokorny, Rod Reynolds, Woody Paige, Jack Noel, Paul Gangwish, Jim Dittmer...

They're all survivors. ♦

## **Bowl Tradition**

*Continued from page 12*

Dunning each had 10 tackles.

Oklahoma's Billy Sims rushed for 134 yards and scored two touchdowns.

The surprise rematch came about after Nebraska and Oklahoma tied for the Big Eight Conference championship.

### **Cotton Bowl/Jan. 1, 1980**

HOUSTON 17, NEBRASKA 14

A touchdown pass, which deflected off Husker defensive back Ric Lindquist with 12 seconds remaining in the game, spelled

defeat for the Cornhuskers.

Nebraska had gone ahead, 14-10, less than four minutes earlier on a six-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Jeff Quinn to tight end Jeff Finn and Dean Sukup's extra-point kick.

One play before the Quinn-to-Finn scoring strike, the Cornhuskers tricked Houston with a "Swinging Gate" play.

Nebraska broke from the huddle and quickly lined up to the left of the ball, all except Quinn, who tossed an underhand lateral to I-back Jarvis Redwine, behind a wall of Cornhuskers.

Redwine was escorted into the end zone, but officials called the unique play back, ruling Quinn had picked up the ball instead of throwing it off the ground in a continuous motion. Since Houston was offside, the down was replayed, and Nebraska scored.

The touchdown drive was set up at the Houston 31-yard line when defensive tackle Bill Barnett recovered a fumble.

### **Sun Bowl/Dec. 27, 1980**

NEBRASKA 31, MISSISSIPPI STATE 17

The Cornhuskers jumped out to a 17-0 halftime lead and never looked back in winning the 48th annual Sun Bowl.

Nebraska wasted no time establishing control, recovering a fumbled punt and scoring on Todd Brown's 23-yard run off a split end reverse.

Kevin Seibel, who kicked a 22-yard field goal to boost the lead to 10-0, added the first of four extra points.

Quarterback Jeff Quinn hooked up with tight end Jeff Finn on an eight-yard touchdown pass with 1:57 remaining in the first half to eliminate any doubt about the game's outcome.

Quinn, a senior from Ord, threw a second touchdown pass, 52 yards to wingback Tim McCrady, to wrap up the victory late in the fourth quarter.

Fullback Andra Franklin scored Nebraska's other touchdown on a two-yard run. That scoring drive, only 25 yards long, was set up by defensive end Jimmy Williams' fumble recovery.

The junior from Washington, D.C., finished with six tackles and recovered three fumbles to earn recognition as Line-man of the Game.

In all, Mississippi State turned over the ball seven times to the opportunistic Cornhuskers. Russell Gary was Nebraska's leading tackler, finishing with nine, eight of them unassisted.

### **Orange Bowl/Jan. 1, 1982**

CLEMSON 22, NEBRASKA 15

The Cornhuskers fell short in a bid to upset top-ranked Clemson and earn a national championship for themselves in the first of three consecutive Orange Bowl appearances.

Nebraska went into the game ranked fourth in the nation. But the Huskers



# LUCK.



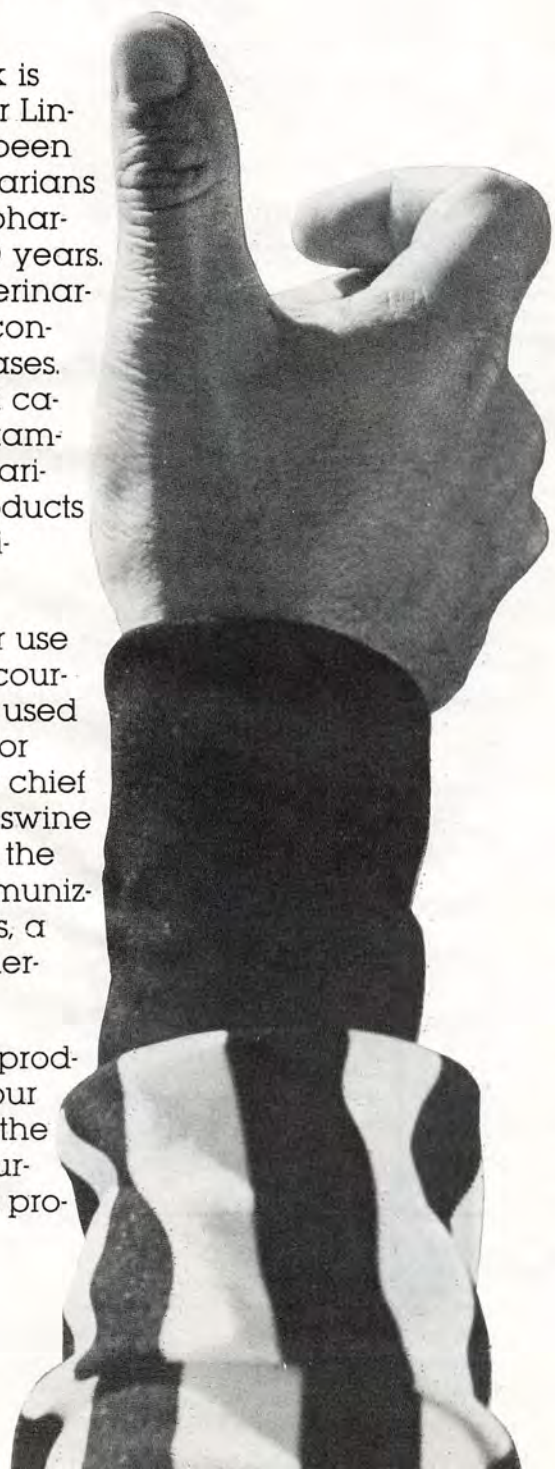
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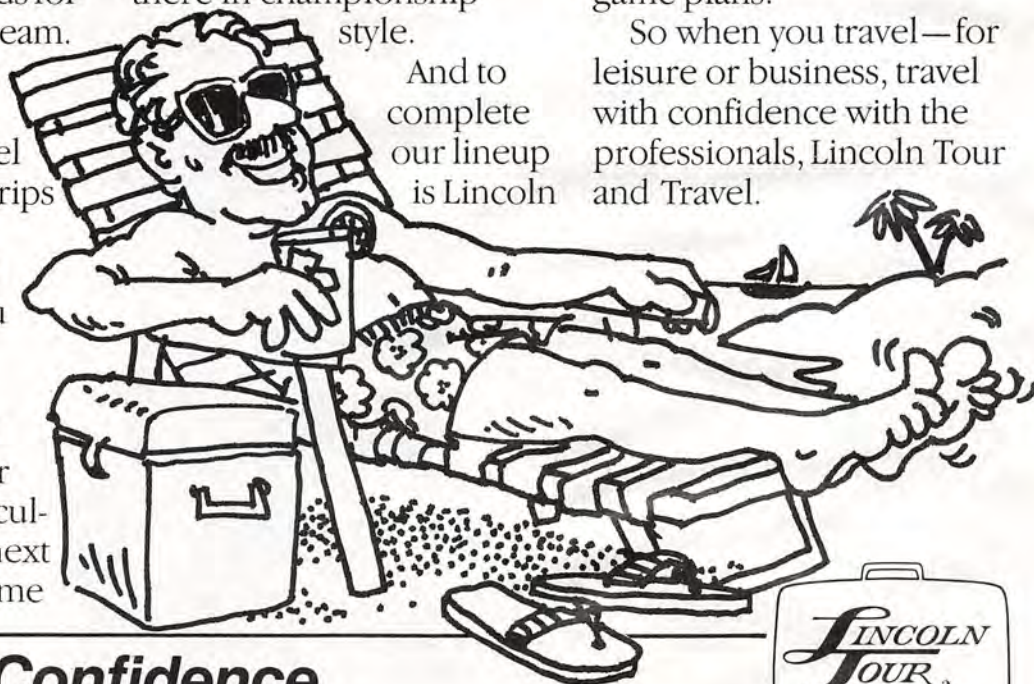
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could have been No. 1 with a victory because earlier on New Year's Day, second-ranked Georgia lost to Pitt in the Sugar Bowl and third-ranked Alabama fell to Texas in the Cotton Bowl.

Three field goals by Donald Igwebuike and a 13-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter prevented Nebraska from ambushing the Tigers.

The Cornhuskers took a 7-3 lead into the second quarter on a 25-yard halfback pass from Mike Rozier to Anthony Steels and Kevin Seibel's extra-point kick, but they went into the fourth quarter trailing 22-7.

Roger Craig put Nebraska back in the game early in the final period by running 26 yards for a touchdown and then running for the conversion.

Craig, a junior from Davenport, Iowa, finished the game with 87 yards on 10 carries. Rozier rushed for 75 yards.

Nebraska's quarterback was senior Mark Mauer, who stepped in and directed the Cornhuskers to a 37-14 victory over Oklahoma in the final game of the regular season after sophomore Turner Gill was sidelined by a leg injury.

#### **Orange Bowl/Jan. 1, 1983**

NEBRASKA 21, LSU 20

For the second year in a row, the Cornhuskers had a chance, albeit a slim one, to come away from their bowl game with a national championship. They went in ranked third in the nation, behind Penn State and Southern Methodist, both of whom won earlier New Year's Day.

Penn State handed Nebraska its only loss of the season, 27-24, at State College, Pa.

Louisiana State gave the Cornhuskers everything they could handle in the Orange Bowl, a game watched by only 54,407 because of violent social unrest in the Miami area.

Nebraska scored first, on a five-yard touchdown run by fullback Mark Schellen and Kevin Seibel's extra-point kick.

But the Tigers scored 17 points before the Cornhuskers scored again in the third quarter on an 11-yard touchdown pass from Turner Gill to Mike Rozier.

Gill scored the winning touchdown on a one-yard run, capping an eight-play, 52-yard drive, with 11:14 remaining in the fourth quarter. The junior from Fort Worth, Texas, was named the game's Most Valuable Back, completing 13 passes in 22 attempts for 184 yards and rushing for 37 yards on 12 carries.

Rozier finished with a game-high 118 yards on 26 carries. Wingback Irving Fryar caught five passes for 83 yards.

Nebraska's Black Shirt defense limited Louisiana State's offense to 38 yards rushing, a Cornhusker bowl record.

Nebraska center Dave Rimington was picked the game's Outstanding Lineman.

The victory gave Nebraska a 5-4 record in Orange Bowl games. ♦

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**M**arc Munford limped off the field at Memorial Stadium early in the second quarter of Nebraska's 56-6 victory over Kansas. The junior linebacker had just tackled the Jayhawks' Arnold Fields, following a 13-yard run.

It was Munford's fifth tackle of the game and, as it turned out, his final tackle of the season.

In colliding with Cornhusker teammate Scott Tucker, a defensive end, on the tackle, Munford had somehow suffered torn ligaments in his right knee.

It was a freak injury, to be sure.

The next day, Munford underwent five hours of surgery on the knee.

Nebraska team physicians Dr. Pat Clare and Dr. Tom Heiser performed the surgery, reconstructing the anterior cruciate ligament and repairing both the medial collateral ligament and the posterior capsule, an extension of the two ligaments.

Naturally, Munford's injury put a damper on the Cornhuskers' celebration after the Kansas game. "It's pretty solemn. We all look at each other and shake our heads because one of our comrades is gone," senior defensive tackle Jim Skow told reporters.

A week later, Nebraska fans received more sobering news regarding Munford.

On Nov. 22, the day before the Oklahoma game, he was transferred from Lincoln's St. Elizabeth Community Health Center to Bryan Memorial Hospital as a result of complications with his kidneys.

Clare said Munford was "alert and stable and talking and all of that, but he's not having normal kidney functions. We don't know if there is an underlying problem and if there's a specific reason for it."

A kidney specialist was called in.

On Wednesday, Nov. 27, George Sullivan, Nebraska's head trainer and physical therapist, confirmed that Munford was receiving dialysis treatments to assist his kidney function.

"The frustrating thing is that although some deep studies are going on, nobody has yet been able to discover the cause of the kidney problem. Marc has been quite ill, but he's getting along as well as can be expected," said Sullivan, who noted that until the cause of the problem could be identified, "the less said the better."

At that point, all inquiries regarding Munford's condition were referred to the Nebraska athletic department.

On Friday, Nov. 29, Munford's father, Jim Munford of Littleton, Colo., told The Associated Press that his son's condition was improving. Munford's parents had spent Thanksgiving Day with him at the hospital. "We anticipate some additional information in the next couple of days," Jim Munford said.

"In my opinion, he's in good shape."

By the next Monday, Munford had been taken off dialysis, and a week later, he was released from the hospital.

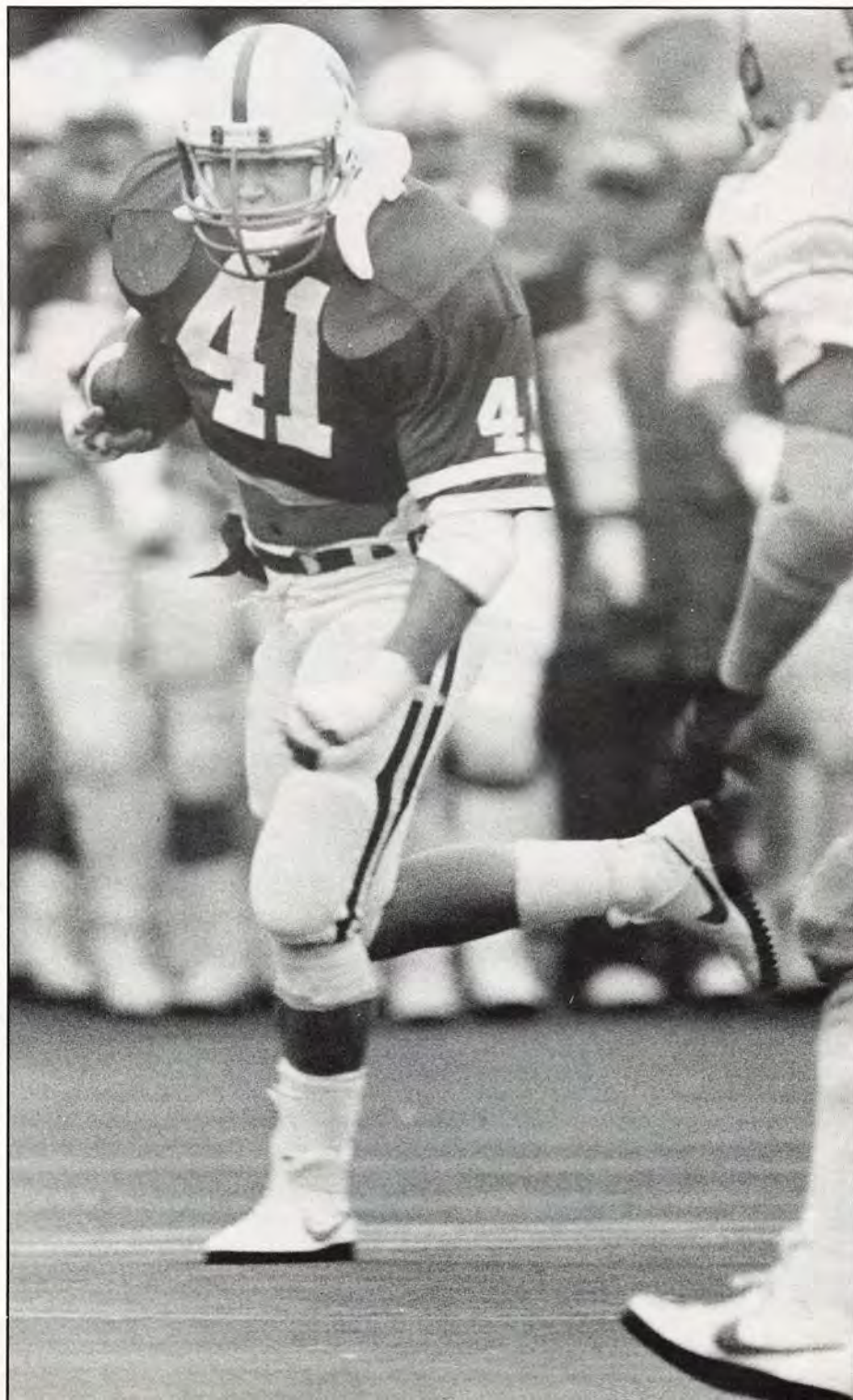
"Although Marc's kidney problem has not been totally pinpointed, it appears that it was caused by post-operative blood loss," said Sullivan. "I can't say that he's completely cured, but he's past any danger point, for which we're very grateful. I'm not sure Marc will be able to go to the Fiesta Bowl with his teammates because the doctors want him to have some additional bed rest. But at least he does not require additional hospitalization."

"Everything is looking up, so that is certainly good news."

The good news had been a long time in coming.

Munford is now living in Lincoln with his brother, Matt, a volunteer assistant to Boyd Epley, Nebraska's strength and conditioning coach.

"His kidney function has gotten back to where it's looking respectable. It seems to be improving every day, but that's still a little bit of a concern," Cornhusker Coach Tom Osborne said during his first Sunkist Fiesta Bowl press conference, the day practice resumed. "We don't know that he'll have full return there, although I think so. It's beginning to appear more and more that way. This is a layman's opinion, but maybe it was just the trauma of the surgery that touched off the (kidney) thing





because he is getting good return.

"It just takes some time."

Munford apparently will have plenty of time on his hands. Rehabilitating his knee is expected to require a minimum of six to nine months, a period that will definitely keep him out of spring practice. "Generally speaking, those injuries take that long," said Osborne.

Senior linebacker Mike Knox was forced to redshirt and spend the better part of a year coming back from reconstructive knee surgery. Split end Jason Gamble, who suffered a knee injury in the next-to-last game a year ago, was sidelined for about the same length of time.

After it was apparent that Munford had pulled through the worst part of the kid-

ney ailment, attention shifted to whether or not he'd be ready to play next fall. "We'll probably start to get a feel for that long about June," Osborne said. "We're hoping the kidney thing won't be a factor come spring, or even a month or so from now."

Munford could redshirt, since he went from playing with the junior varsity as a freshman to leading the varsity in tackles as a sophomore.

One thing he probably won't do, however, is travel with the team to Tempe, Ariz., for the Fiesta Bowl.

Doctors "don't want him to go to the bowl game because they say his immune system is so depleted, and I guess there's a fairly virulent form of flu that occurs in the

Phoenix area in the winter, and they don't want him in touch with contracting that," said Osborne. "They don't even want him to go home to Colorado. They want him to stay here for another month so he can be in touch with the doctors."

Knox, who's also from Colorado, can empathize with Munford. Spending a forced redshirt season wasn't easy for the senior captain. "When it happens, you think, 'Why did this have to happen to me?'" Knox said. "It's just something Marc's going to have to come back from."

Munford knows a little something about coming back from adversity.

He underwent arthroscopic surgery to have cartilage removed from his right knee following the Sugar Bowl a year ago and yet was ready to go through spring practice. Because the knee was tender, he was given the opportunity to sit out the last week and miss the annual Red-White intrasquad game.

But he declined. "I want to make sure I hold my job," he explained.

Besides, "I'm not going through three weeks of practice and then sit out the last week and miss the game."

After the spring game, the knee was scoped again.

Munford made an even more dramatic comeback during the season, however, after undergoing arthroscopic surgery for a slight ligament tear in his left knee the day after the Cornhuskers' 34-24 victory over Oklahoma State. Just 13 days later, he was in the starting lineup for the Colorado game. At the time, Munford said having his knee scoped was about like getting a tuneup. "I wasn't going to sit out."

Prior to the surgery, Munford was told rehabilitation would take approximately two to three weeks. He had to test at 90 percent on the Cybex machine in order to get clearance from the trainers to play.

Five days after the operation, he tested above 100 percent, which means his injured knee was stronger than the good knee.

"He's pretty amazing," said split end Rod Smith, a sophomore from Thornton, Colo. who roomed with Munford his first two years at Nebraska. "It's in his will. Marc's got the strongest desire to play I've ever seen. He wanted to play Colorado, and I think that helped him heal. That was the bottom line."

Munford not only played against the Buffaloes, he was credited with nine tackles to tie Skow for team-high honors, and recovered a fumble to set up a field goal in the 17-7 victory.

Prior to his season-ending injury, Munford was having what Nebraska linebackers' Coach John Melton called "an All-American" season.

"I sincerely think Munford's an All-American, and I'll tell you why," said Melton, who's not one to pass out compliments without first giving some thought

# Marc Munford

## Facing A New Kind of Opponent

Few linebackers in Husker history have made big plays with such regularity as Munford (41).





to what he's saying. "There are a lot of linebackers who make a lot of tackles, right? But as soon as it's a passing situation, what do they do with them? They take 'em out."

Munford, however, didn't come out.

With his :04.72 speed in the 40-yard dash, he was the Cornhuskers' fastest linebacker. He was strong against the pass as well as the run. "He'd be on our kicking teams, too, but I've got to rest him some time," Melton said. "I think Munford is as good as there is."

Melton's opinion was shared by others. The Downtown Athletic Club of Orlando, Fla., picked Munford as one of 15 finalists for its first Butkus Award, honoring the nation's outstanding college linebacker.

Munford also earned first-team All-Big Eight recognition from the Associated Press and the *Omaha World-Herald*.

Even though he missed the final two games of the season, Munford finished as Nebraska's leading tackler, edging Knox by two. Munford was credited with 67 total tackles, including 43 unassisted. He intercepted two passes, broke up three others and recovered two fumbles. "When

he was well, he was probably as good a linebacker as we've ever had here," said Osborne.

"I think he and (Brian) Bosworth are the two best linebackers I saw this year in the country."

Oklahoma's Bosworth, a consensus All-American, won the Butkus Award.

"We really missed Marc's speed against Oklahoma and will again against Michigan (in the Fiesta Bowl)," Osborne said.

Munford's replacement is Kevin Parsons, a 6-3, 230-pound junior from Springfield, Mo., who also has never red-shirted. In fact, Parsons played enough with the varsity as a freshman to earn a letter.

Parsons, who had been alternating with Knox until moving over to take Munford's position, is fourth on the team in tackles with 48.

He was credited with a team-high 13 tackles in the Oklahoma game.

Parsons' best game this season came against Missouri. With Munford sidelined, Parsons started for the first time in his college career. He made 14 tackles, recovered a fumble and sacked Tiger quarterback Marlon Adler for a nine-yard loss

in the 28-20 victory.

"This was a very special game for me, playing in front of family and friends, playing against guys I used to play against in high school," an elated Parsons said afterward.

"The fact that I had a tough time making a decision between Nebraska and Missouri made this a very important game for me."

Nebraska certainly doesn't lack depth at linebacker, what with Knox, Parsons, senior Chad Daffer and junior Steve Forch, as well as freshman LeRoy Etienne, who traveled to Oklahoma and could figure prominently in Melton's plans during the Fiesta Bowl.

Still, Munford is a "big-play player with speed," said Osborne. "You can count on him in a big game to make 12, 14 or 15 tackles."

One of Nebraska's biggest victories this season was the one at Oklahoma State, beamed across the nation on the ESPN cable television network. It was also one of Munford's biggest games.

He was credited with 12 tackles and was one of the main reasons that Cowboy tailback Thurman Thomas, the nation's second-leading rusher at the time, was limited to 71 rushing yards on 22 carries.

But it was a calculated risk Munford took early in the fourth quarter that showed his knack for being in the right place at the right time. Oklahoma State had pulled to within three points, at 20-17, and the Cowboys were trying to mount a drive to take the lead.

On a third-down-and-seven from his own 23-yard line, Oklahoma State quarterback Ronnie Williams dropped back to pass. Munford was in man-to-man coverage on a tight end but decided to gamble when Williams broke out of containment. Williams saw Munford leave his man and tried to drop a pass over him. As Williams quickly discovered, that was a big mistake.

Munford, who has one of the best vertical jumps on the team (36 inches), leaped in the air and came down with the ball. "I've never seen him jump like that, but you find out you can do things you didn't know you could do when you're in that kind of situation," Skow said after the game.

And don't forget, Munford played that game with cartilage floating around in his left knee, which was scoped the next morning.

"He's a tough son-of-a-gun," said Nebraska center Bill Lewis.

When the Cornhuskers take the field at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe on New Year's Day to play fifth-ranked Michigan, "we'll miss his presence," said Osborne.

That's the bad news.

The good news is, "he's getting around fine, and he looks pretty good. He'll come back awfully fast once he gets his feet under him," Osborne said. ♦



## Official Report

On Monday, December 16, Dr. Scott Liggett, a specialist in kidney dialysis and kidney transplantation who was involved in the diagnosis and treatment of Marc Munford's kidney problems, issued the following statement on behalf of himself and Dr. Pat Clare, a Nebraska team physician.

"We are pleased to report that Marc Munford is making steady recovery from his kidney disorder. While we continue to evaluate his kidney function, we have not determined the exact cause of his kidney failure. Tests thus far indicate that the problem was not due to operative blood loss, operative tissue trauma, reaction to anesthesia, reaction to antibiotics, nor do we feel anabolic steroids were a factor (as has been speculated).

"We do feel the use of anti-inflammatory medication during the football season is a strong possibility as a basic factor in the problem. We will continue to investigate with Marc's full recovery as our top priority."

According to Liggett, use of a synthetic aspirin regularly given to football players may have contributed to Munford's kidney problems. Liggett said such a reaction might occur in approximately 10 percent of those using the synthetic aspirin, which produces relief from the normal aches and pains of football considerably faster than regular aspirin.

He indicated that the kidney problem should have no lingering effect which would prevent Munford from playing football in the fall.



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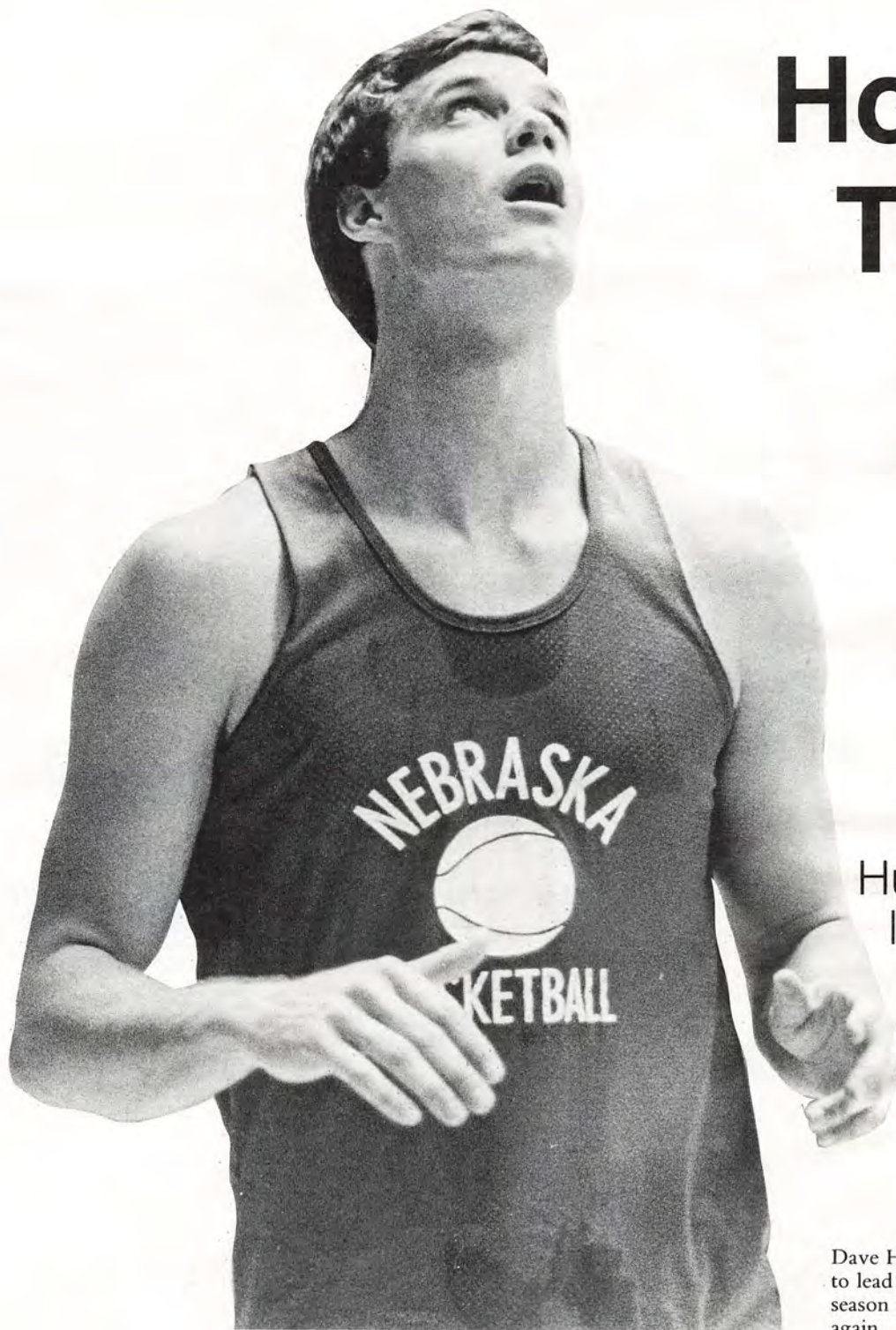
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## **Record Setter**



# **Hoppen To The Top**

Senior center  
becomes  
Huskers' all-time  
leading scorer.

Dave Hoppen hopes  
to lead NU into post-  
season play once  
again.



**J**ust 26 seconds into the Nebraska basketball team's 76-59 victory over Montana State, Dave Hoppen became the most prolific scorer in Cornhusker history. An audience of 4,983 at Brick Breeden Fieldhouse in Bozeman, Mont., witnessed the basket that moved Hoppen ahead of Jerry Fort.

The officials stopped the game long enough to award Hoppen the ball.

For the record, the field goal was No. 706 of Hoppen's Cornhusker career. His first came in the Bob Devaney Sports Center on a shot from the lane, off a feed from Claude Renfro, 2:36 into his first game at Nebraska, Nov. 26, 1982.

Cornhusker Coach Moe Iba knew Hoppen had the potential to someday be the leading scorer in school history when he recruited Hoppen out of Omaha Benson High School. "The way we use our post men, yes," said Iba, who emphasized that fact after Hoppen made a verbal commitment to Nebraska early in his senior year at Benson.

"We put as much importance on the center position as anybody," Iba said at the time. "The center has always been the hub of our offense."

"We get the ball to him to create situations for others and to create situations for himself."

That was true even when Nebraska didn't have a tall center.

It was the offensive philosophy when 6-7 Andre Smith was the Cornhusker center and earned recognition as the Big Eight Player of the Year for 1981.

It was true when Lenard Johnson and Terry Smith alternated at center the year before Hoppen arrived.

"We use the center more than anybody in our league, maybe more than anybody in the country," Iba said. "This year (1981-82), even though we're not blessed with a scoring center, we still get the ball to him. He's still the main man in our offense."

Hoppen wasted no time in becoming Nebraska's main man. "I didn't know if David could start as a freshman, but he came in with a good attitude and developed," said Iba.

In fact, Hoppen has never not started during his career at Nebraska. Through the Montana State game, he had started a school-record 99 consecutive times. He'd scored in double figures in 93 of those games, including 72 in a row.

The last team to hold him under 10 points was Iowa State. The Cyclones limited him to seven points in the opening round of the Big Eight post-season tournament in 1983.

During his Nebraska career, Hoppen has scored 20 or more points 51 times and 30 or more points seven times.

His personal high was 35, in last season's opener, an 89-67 victory over Southern Colorado at the Devaney Sports Center.

That was also a Sports Center record. He hit 12 of 16 field goal attempts and 11 of 11 free throws, to set another Sports Center record.

On that night, Hoppen moved ahead of Herschell Turner into 10th place on Nebraska's all-time scoring list.

Now, he's No. 1.

Hoppen got there in style, finishing the Montana State game with 32 points, on 11-of-18 from the floor and 10-of-12 from the free throw line.

He also pulled down seven rebounds, another statistical category in which he'll probably rank No. 1 in school history when he graduates to the National Basket-



ball Association.

He's currently fifth on the NU rebounding list, behind Leroy Chalk, Smith, Chuck Jura and Carl McPipe.

Hoppen took the scoring record in stride. "When I first came to Nebraska that was sort of a goal I set in the back of my mind," he said. "But I never really went out and pursued it hard. I just went out and tried to play the best I could every night. If it was going to come, it was going to come."

When it came, Hoppen refused to take all the credit, noting: "I've played with a lot of great players, and the coaching staff has really worked on getting me the ball. I've been lucky enough to put it in the hole."

Hoppen's shooting success is more than luck, of course. He's hitting around 70 percent from the field this season, and he currently has a career shooting percentage of better than 60.

Hoppen continues to score, even though "one thing people are doing this year is they're setting their defenses more to stop him than they did a year ago," Iba said. Why? "I don't know. I think maybe they've heard of him, and they respect him more, especially the teams he's had a good game against before."

Hoppen scored 23 against Montana State at the Devaney Sports Center last season, so the Bobcats were less effective the second time around.

California-Irvine, on the other hand, learned from last year. Hoppen burned the Anteaters for 33 points in the opening round of the Cable Car Classic at San Jose, Calif., a year ago, and Nebraska won, 73-67.

This year, Cal-Irvine came to Lincoln and put the clamps on Hoppen, relatively speaking, holding him to 16 points and beating the Huskers, 87-80.

According to Iba, success hasn't spoiled Hoppen. "It might have changed him, but it didn't," said Iba. "A lot of times a coach gets a player who has success and notices a difference in coaching him. His head swells or whatever. But David has never shown any sign of that. It's just his make-up."

"You've got to give him a lot of credit for that. He's always had an attitude of playing basketball, doing the very best he can and having fun."

Hoppen hasn't become complacent.

"I think he's more serious about basketball now," Iba said. "Not that he wasn't before, but he realizes it's a possible way to make a living."

If Hoppen continues scoring at his current pace, he'll be No. 2 on the Big Eight's all-time list by the time he completes his eligibility.

With the 32 points against Montana State he moved ahead of Kansas' Clyde Lovellette, into fifth place.

Barring injury or some other unusual circumstances, Hoppen should become only the fourth conference player to score 2,000 or more points in a career by the time Nebraska opens Big Eight play Jan. 15 against Kansas.

The top three are Wayman Tisdale of Oklahoma (2,661 points), Barry Stevens of Iowa State (2,190) and Mike Evans of Kansas State (2,115).

One of Hoppen's best early-season efforts came during the Cornhuskers' 71-52 victory over intrastate rival Creighton. Not only did he score 20 points, but he also grabbed 11 rebounds and held the man he was guarding, the Bluejays' Ed Johansen, scoreless.

*Continued on page 40*



**B**ob Devaney directed Nebraska to many memorable victories during his 11 seasons as Cornhusker football coach.

Among the most prominent: 35-31 over Oklahoma at Norman, Okla., in 1971, the Game of the Century; 17-12 over LSU in the 1971 Orange Bowl to give Nebraska its first national championship, and 38-7 over Alabama in the 1972 Orange Bowl to wrap up a 13-0 season and a second national title.

Each of those wins sparkles like a diamond in the crown of Devaney's Hall of Fame coaching career.

But another victory, one on which no national championship, Big Eight title or unbeaten season depended, ranks with those three, according to Devaney.

Only a handful of Cornhusker fans saw the victory in person because the game was played in Ann Arbor, Mich., Sept. 29, 1962. The score: Nebraska 25, Michigan 13. A Band Day audience of 70,287 looked on.

In his regional best-seller, *Devaney*, Nebraska's athletic director writes: *I'm not so sure I don't cherish it as much as any game I ever coached. The win over LSU in the Orange Bowl was important because it gave us our first national championship. The win over Oklahoma in 1971 was important because that's the game everyone still talks about.*

*But the win over Michigan is the one that put us on the map. It showed the country that we were turning things around.*

For more than 20 years, Nebraska has ranked among the nation's top college football programs. The Cornhuskers haven't had a losing season since Devaney became head coach in 1962.

His record at Nebraska combined with that of Coach Tom Osborne is a dramatic 228-49-4. But when Devaney arrived, the Cornhuskers hadn't had a winning season since 1954, and during the 21 seasons since the 1941 Rose Bowl team, Nebraska's record was 72-127-4.

The Cornhuskers' only winning seasons during that stretch were 1950 (6-2-1), 1952 (5-4-1) and 1954 (6-5-0).

Prior to Devaney's arrival, Nebraska had made only two bowl game appearances in its history, the 1941 Rose Bowl against Stanford and the 1955 Orange Bowl against Duke, both losses.

Only two Devaney-coached teams didn't go to bowls, and all of Osborne's teams have made post-season appearances, including the Huskers' upcoming trip to the Fiesta Bowl to play, yes, Michigan, the school which helped return Nebraska's tradition-rich program to national prominence.

September of 1962...

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Andrei Gromyko of the Soviet Union are meeting at the United Nations in New York City to discuss Berlin and Cuba.

Meat and potatoes, staples for any foot-



## 1962 Win At Michigan Proved Devaney Was For Real

ball team, can be purchased from Lincoln grocers at \$1.09 per pound for T-bone steak and 29 cents for 10 pounds of potatoes.

President John F. Kennedy is launching an all-out attack on the international problem of narcotics and drug abuse.

James Meredith commands the daily national headlines as he attempts to become the first black student at the University of Mississippi.

United States Attorney General Robert Kennedy tells a defiant Ross Barnett, the Mississippi governor, that federal marshalls will escort Meredith into the university if need be.

In Texas, Billy Sol Estes wins a postponement of his state trial on charges of theft and swindling.

The United States announces it is withdrawing military forces from Laos.

Among the first-run movies in Lincoln are "Hatari," starring John Wayne, and Elvis Presley's "Kid Galahad."

The FBI arrests Cornelius Drummond, an American sailor, on espionage charges, for selling secrets to the Russians.

In major league baseball, the New York Yankees and San Francisco Giants are on their way to winning pennants and a rain-delayed World Series showdown, which is won by the Yankees in seven games.

The stars of those two teams are Hall of Fame center fielders, Willie Mays of the Giants and Mickey Mantle of the Yankees.

Professional boxing gets a new world heavyweight champion in Sonny Liston, when Floyd Patterson is counted out in 2:06 of the first round of their fight in Chicago. The date is Sept. 25, three days after Bob Devaney makes his coaching debut at Nebraska.

The graduate assistants on Devaney's first Cornhusker staff are Dallas Dyer, a former NU player, and Tom Osborne.

Before a curious audience of less than 30,000 in Memorial Stadium, the Cornhuskers blast South Dakota, 53-0.

The lead story in the *Lincoln Sunday Journal and Star* described the opener.

*A brilliant sun broke over Memorial Stadium, home of the Cornhuskers, late Saturday afternoon, heralding the successful start of the Bob Devaney Era in Nebraska football.*





Bob Devaney proved to the football world in 1962 that Nebraska football had come of age.

Daugherty, of course, and he knew all about Michigan and the Big 10.

Devaney never lost to a Big 10 team during his career as a head coach. His teams were 10-0.

Anyway, Michigan had finished 6-3 in 1961, and Elliott was convinced his 1962 team, which included 19 returning lettermen, would be even better.

Associated Press sports writer Will Grimsley picked Michigan to beat Nebraska 22-7. The Dunkel Index projected a 10-point victory for the Wolverines.

Devaney, who had done some boxing as a youngster, has never been one to back down from a fight. "We haven't given up, and we certainly don't figure Michigan is a team we can't beat," he said the week before the game.

"We'll shoot the works," Devaney promised the long-suffering Cornhusker faithful.

Devaney had several concerns heading into the Michigan game.

Seniors Bill Thornton, a fullback, and Jim Hoge, an end, were considered questionable. Thornton had suffered a dislocated shoulder during fall camp, and as late as Wednesday of game week, Devaney

Mike Corgan after the initial outing, and it appeared justified. Even against the out-manned Sodaks, the Huskers weren't able to break many long runs. But while the first game didn't supply all the answers, it did help confirm the pre-season suspicion that Nebraska opponents may not be able to completely thwart the Husker offense simply by jamming up the middle.

Since the game was Michigan's opener, Nebraska couldn't scout the Wolverines. But on Monday, Devaney sent his team through an extensive scrimmage in preparation for the Wolverines.

The scout squad that attempted to simulate Michigan was put together from a freshman class that included Frank Solich, Tony Jeter, Freeman White, LaVerne Allers, Walt Barnes, Dick Czap, Ted Vactor and Fred Duda.

"You can count on Michigan doing its best to keep our quarterback from getting outside on rollouts and bootlegs," Devaney told the Cornhuskers. "It'll take hard hitting on the inside by our offensive line to get the job done."

The interior of Nebraska's offensive line included Ron Michka, a junior from Omaha, at center; Bob Brown, a junior from Cleveland, and Dwain Carlson, a senior from Fullerton at guards; Tyrone Robertson, a senior from Toledo, Ohio, and Lloyd Voss, a junior from Magnolia, Minn., at tackles.

The Cornhuskers' starting ends were Larry Donovan, a senior from Scottsbluff, and Dick Callahan, a junior from Sioux Falls, S.D.

In addition to Claridge, a junior from Robbinsdale, Minn., the backfield included Willie Ross, a junior from Helena, Ark., whose elusive runs earned him the nickname "The Twister," and Dennis Stuewe, a senior from Hamburg, Minn., at halfback and Gene Young, a junior from Cleveland, at fullback, replacing Thornton.

Because of NCAA rules limiting substitutions, they played both offense and defense.

The second-team line was comprised of Tomlinson and Bill Comstock at ends, Monte Kiffin and Al Fischer at tackles, John Kirby and Don McDermott at guards, and Baffico at center.

The No. 2 backfield included either Faiman or Tucker at quarterback, Rudy Johnson and Theisen at halfbacks, and Warren Powers at fullback.

Sophomore center Lyle Sittler wasn't included on the Cornhuskers' 40-player travel roster because he'd been hospitalized with a spleen injury, suffered during the Monday scrimmage. But Thornton and Hoge both went.

Michigan might have controlled the action in the first quarter, but the Wolverines couldn't score. Three times they drove deep into Nebraska territory and three

*Continued on page 45*

*In a game that rolled along for almost three hours the 1962 Scarlet and Cream proved two things with a 53-0 win over South Dakota.*

*1 — They can best the stuffing out of South Dakota.*

*2 — The days of three yards and a cloud of dust offenses are a thing of the past.*

*But how good the Huskers are will be answered after the Michigan game next week.*

The Wolverines of Coach Bump Elliott represented Devaney's first challenge.

Prior to his first season at Nebraska, Devaney and his assistants made beating Michigan one of their goals. Devaney didn't think his first Cornhusker team was "quite good enough to win the Big Eight or go undefeated." But he was convinced it could win at Ann Arbor.

In *Bob Devaney: Portrait of a Winner*, Jim Ross, a former Nebraska assistant and Devaney's long-time friend, is quoted:

*At that time we wanted to beat Michigan in the worst way because we were coming back to the big time. It didn't mean much nationally, but it meant so much to us. We were born and raised in Michigan; that's an awfully big stadium and to us it was the ultimate in football — at least it was then. Nebraska is the ultimate now.*

Michigan played in the Big 10, which drew considerably more national attention than the Big Eight in 1962.

Devaney, who was born and raised in Saginaw, Mich., had been an assistant coach at Michigan State under Duffy

*"I'm not so sure I don't cherish it as much as any game I ever coached." —  
Devaney*

doubted he'd be able to play. Hoge was still feeling the effects of a concussion which occurred in the South Dakota game when his plastic suspension helmet caved in. Both were starters.

Thornton, Hoge and the rest of the seniors were unaccustomed to winning at Nebraska. In their first two varsity seasons, the Cornhuskers were 7-12-1.

Michigan represented an opportunity to erase some of that frustration.

Devaney also spoke openly of what he took to be a weakness in the Cornhuskers' running attack.

Don Bryant, Nebraska's sports information director and assistant athletic director, was sports editor of the *Lincoln Star* in 1962. After a Quarterback Club meeting on the Monday before the Michigan game, Bryant wrote:

*Concern over Nebraska's running game was expressed by Devaney and backfield coach*



## Hoppen

*Continued from page 37*

The Creighton game underscored how much Hoppen's teammates have come to rely on him. In fact, during the first half, it became a problem.

Creighton packed its defense so tight around Hoppen that the Cornhuskers needed some scoring from outside to open up the middle.

Junior guard Brian Carr, who's assisted Hoppen on many of his baskets over the past two seasons, finally opened things up by hitting his first seven shots in the second half.

Carr finished the Creighton game 9-of-11 from the field.

Hoppen is willing to let someone else do the scoring if it means a Nebraska victory. "Sometimes I set a standard of 20 points for myself, and if I don't score 20, I feel like I had a bad game," he said. "But as long as we're winning, it doesn't make any difference how much I score."

Hoppen is the fourth Nebraska center to score more than 1,000 points during his career. The others are Smith, Carl McPipe and Chuck Jura, who did it in only three varsity seasons.

Here's a brief run-down and capsules on the other members of the Cornhuskers' 1,000-point club:

(2) Jerry Fort (1973-76), 6-3, 170, Chicago — Fort was an All-Big Eight guard three times and held about every Nebraska freshman, sophomore and junior scoring record until Hoppen arrived. He still holds the Huskers' single-game scoring record. In an 80-77 NU victory over Missouri in 1975, Fort scored 40 points, breaking the previous school mark of 38, set by Tom Russell in 1962.

Fort's best season was as a junior, when he averaged 20.2 points per game. Over his four-year career, Fort had a 17.9-point average, shooting 43.3 percent from the field and 67.5 percent from the free throw line. He holds the school record for field goals in a career, with 777.

Fort scored 1,882 points.

(3) Andre Smith (1978-1981) 6-7, 210, Chicago — Smith, Nebraska's No. 2 all-time rebounder, shot 58.6 percent from the field for his career and averaged 15.1 points per game. Smith's best season also was as a junior, when he averaged 19.1 points and 8.1 rebounds per game to lead the Cornhuskers to an 18-13 record and a trip to the National Invitation Tournament.

Nebraska lost in the opening round of the NIT to Michigan, 76-69.

As a senior, Smith led the Big Eight in conference scoring average (19.5) and was named Player of the Year. His personal career high was a 34-point night against Eastern Washington, a Devaney Sports

Center record until Hoppen scored 35 last season.

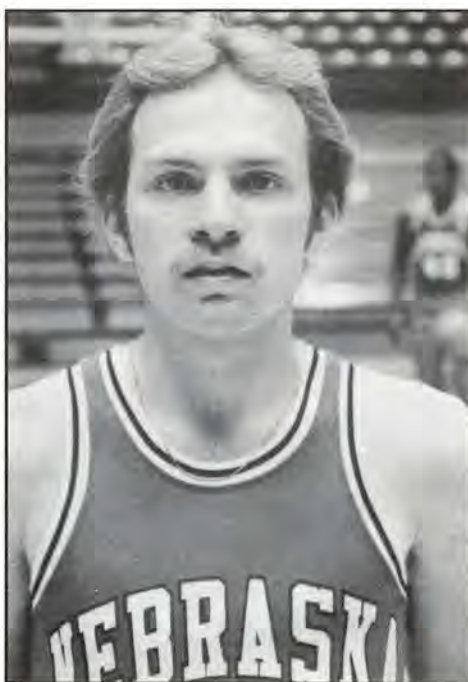
Smith scored 1,717 points.

(4) Carl McPipe (1976-79), 6-8, 225, Hammond, Ind. — McPipe was one-half of Nebraska's "Hammond Hustlers." The other half was guard Brian Banks.

McPipe was a three-year starter, who played sparingly as a freshman. He scored only 66 points that year. Over his career, McPipe shot 48.5 percent from the field and averaged 12.5 points per game. As a sophomore, he carried averages of 15.2 points and 8.3 rebounds and shot 48.7 percent. His personal career high was 29 points against Kansas as a junior.

McPipe scored 1,300 points.

(5) Tom Baack (1966-68), 6-5, 195, Fort Wayne, Ind. — Currently a Cornhusker assistant coach, Baack averaged 17.2



The late Jack Moore.

points per game over his three-year career. Baack shot 54.2 percent from the field and averaged 15.4 points per game on a team that finished 20-5 his sophomore year. His junior year, the Cornhuskers were 16-9 and played in the National Invitation Tournament, losing to Marshall 119-88 in the opening round.

Baack had a smooth jump shot and was an excellent free throw shooter, finishing his career with an 83.6 free throw percentage.

Baack scored 1,299 points.

(6) Stu Lantz (1966-68), 6-3, 185, Uniontown, Pa. — Lantz, a two-time All-Big Eight guard, was a teammate of Baack. He averaged 19.1 points and 19.2 points, respectively, in his junior and senior seasons.

Lantz finished his career with a field goal percentage of 48.5. He was an excellent jumper and rebounder, averaging 7.6 over his three seasons at Nebraska.

Lantz went on to play professional basketball for the Detroit Pistons, Houston Rockets, New Orleans Jazz and Los Angeles Lakers.

Lantz scored 1,266 points.

(7) Chuck Jura (1970-72), 6-10, 220, Schuyler — Until Hoppen arrived, Jura was generally recognized as the best all-round big man in school history. He averaged 21.2 points per game as a senior. Only three other Cornhuskers have averaged 20 or more points a game during a season, Dave Hoppen, Marvin Stewart and Jerry Fort.

Jura was a 54.9-percent field goal shooter and averaged 16.3 points and 9.6 rebounds per game over his career.

Jura scored 1,255 points.

(8) Jack Moore (1979-82), 5-9, 165, Muncie, Ind. — Moore was a complete player who holds Nebraska's career records for assists (382), steals (128) and free throw percentage (.901). His senior year, he hit a Big Eight record 93.9 percent from the free throw line.

Moore, who died in a tragic plane crash, finished his Cornhusker career with a 45.7 field goal percentage. He averaged 11.5 points per game.

Moore scored 1,204 points.

(9) Brian Banks (1976-79), 6-0, 160, Hammond, Ind. — Banks, a three-year starter, was the other half of the "Hammond Hustlers." His best season was as a junior, when he averaged 14 points a game and shot 49.3 percent from the field in addition to leading the team in assists with 96. The Cornhuskers finished 22-8 that season.

Banks was nagged by injuries as a senior, finishing his career with a 10.5-point scoring average.

Banks scored 1,150 points.

(10) Marv Stewart (1969-71), 6-3, 180, Chicago — Stewart averaged 21.4 points per game his senior year, shooting 50.5 percent from the field and 82.4 percent from the free throw line. He topped 1,000 points in his three-year career despite missing 12 games as a junior. Nebraska finished 18-8 that year.

Stewart scored 1,138 points.

(11) Herschell Turner (1957-60), 6-2, 190, Indianapolis, Ind. — Turner teamed with Al Maxey to give the Cornhuskers of Coach Jerry Bush an outstanding one-two punch. Turner was also an excellent rebounder despite his height, averaging 8.7 rebounds per game over his three-year career.

He shot 41.3 percent from the field and averaged 14.7 points. He and Maxey were bright spots on losing teams.

As a junior, Turner averaged 17.1 points and 9.8 rebounds per game.

Turner scored 1,056 points. ♦





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## The Way They See It...

**Wayne DeNeff, Sports Editor Ann Arbor News:** "I give Michigan the edge on defense. The way I see it, Nebraska won't be able to put the ball in the end zone and will have to settle for field goals. **Michigan 17, Nebraska 9.**"

**Al Ackerman, Sports Director WDIV-TV Detroit:** "When I went to the Big 10 Coaches Association meeting before the season started, I picked Michigan to finish in the second half. I think this has been by far the best coaching job Bo Schembechler has done and he's been the pride of the whole area. Their quarterback has been playing in the shadow of other Big 10 quarterbacks and has turned into a real gem. But defensively is where I think Michigan's strength is. I'm glad to see this matchup. Michigan opted for this game as from what I understand they could've waited another week and gone to the Cotton Bowl. At most, with the way Nebraska plays, if Michigan wins by a field goal or touchdown they'd be happy. I don't think they can blow Nebraska away. **Michigan 21, Nebraska 17.**"

**Virgil Parker, Sports Editor Lincoln Journal-Star:** "Michigan and Oklahoma are similar in one respect — both teams have great defenses. But the Wolverines don't have the speed of the Sooners. And that was the factor that did in the Huskers. Some people may feel that a final regular-season loss to Oklahoma puts Nebraska into a skid from which the Huskers cannot recover. History does not bear that out. Eleven times over the years, Nebraska lost its final game to Oklahoma and then went on to a bowl appearance. Seven times the Huskers rebounded to win the bowl game, while losing just four. They'll do it again on New Year's Day in Tempe. **Nebraska 24, Michigan 17.**"

**Terry Yeager, Sports Director KMTV-TV Omaha:** "Michigan has got a so-so offense but their defense, they say, is supposed to be close to Oklahoma's. I think the ole' Huskers will rise to the occasion. I don't think Michigan will do much on offense and the Nebraska offense that sputtered in the past few games will come alive. **Nebraska 21, Michigan 10.**"

**Tobin Beck, United Press International:** "The Huskers will be eager to end the season with a good showing following

## The Series

NEBRASKA vs. MICHIGAN

**When:** 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 1, 1986.

**Where:** Fiesta Bowl, Tempe, Arizona.

**Michigan Facts:** Coach — Bo Schembechler, Miami of Ohio (1951), 17th season at Michigan. School Colors — Maize and Blue. Nickname — Wolverines. Enrollment — 34,432. Conference — Big 10 (Second place in 1985). Offensive System — I-formation. Defensive System — 3-4-4.

**The Series:** Nebraska and Michigan have played only four times, the most recent being in 1962. Bob Devaney was in his first season as head coach at Nebraska, and the Cornhuskers traveled to Ann Arbor, Mich., where they defeated Bump Elliott's Wolverines 25-13. The series began in 1905. Michigan won the first meeting 31-0. In 1911, the teams played to a 6-6 tie, and in 1917, the Wolverines again shut out Nebraska, this time 20-0. The 1911 game was the only one to be played in Lincoln. Nebraska's 1905 team was coached by Walter Cowles Booth, nicknamed "Bummy." The loss to Michigan was one of only two that season. The other was to Minnesota, 35-0. Nebraska finished with a 9-2 record, which included a 102-31 victory over Creighton and five shutouts, but Booth was asked to leave. Jumbo Stiehm's first Nebraska team, in 1911, finished with a 5-1-2 record, all the wins by shutout. The tie with Michigan, coached by former Cornhusker Fielding Yost, came in the season finale. The Cornhuskers of E.J. "Doc" Stewart lost to Michigan in the fourth game of a 5-2 season in 1917. Nebraska shut out its first three opponents, including Notre Dame (7-0) the previous week. ♦

**Lee Sapp Leasing  
Lee Sapp's Pick  
Nebraska 17  
Michigan 14**

the 27-7 loss at Oklahoma. Michigan has a good defense but has not faced a running team like the Huskers. If the Huskers can hold onto the ball and avoid mistakes, they'll win. **Nebraska 24, Michigan 14.**"

## The Way We See It...

**Brent Robinson, Sports Editor Kearney Hub:** "After a disappointing loss to Oklahoma, this is a make or break game for the Huskers. Nebraska can either pack it in and make this one a laugh or forget about the OU loss and play the Wolverines tough. The belief here is that Nebraska will show its true pride and beat Michigan in a close one. The quarterback position is still the key. **Nebraska 24, Michigan 17.**"

**Huskers Illustrated:** "The Fiesta Bowl match-up between Nebraska and Michigan provides another test of the irresistible force, the Cornhuskers' ground-oriented offense, and the immovable object, Michigan's highly-regarded defense. According to Husker Coach Tom Osborne, Michigan may have a better defense than Oklahoma.

"The Wolverines do not, however, have a better offense than the Sooners, which means there is no parallel between this game and Nebraska's 27-7, loss to Oklahoma in the final game of the regular season.

"Although Michigan's offense may be balanced between the pass and the run, the Wolverines will have a difficult time moving the ball on Nebraska. Also, the Huskers won't be faced with trying to contain a wishbone attack — since few teams use it, the wishbone always presents special preparation problems that won't exist as Nebraska gets ready for a 17th consecutive bowl trip.

"Michigan has had success controlling good quarterbacks, Purdue's Jim Everett and Iowa's Chuck Long among them. But the Wolverines haven't had to deal with quick quarterbacks like McCathorn Clayton and Steve Taylor, who probably will get some playing time in Tempe, Ariz., on New Year's Day.

"The Fiesta Bowl has its dream match-up and it won't be disappointed with the show Nebraska and Michigan will put on. The Wolverines go into the game as favorites, following a season in which only four points kept them from being undefeated. But Nebraska will celebrate the arrival of 1986 with a victory.

"The game won't be high-scoring. It'll belong to the defenses. Figure the Cornhuskers to come out on top, maybe with the margin of victory being a Dale Klein field goal. **Nebraska 20, Michigan 17.**" ♦



**O**ne season can make a big difference. The Michigan football team proved that.

Last season, the Wolverines finished with a 6-6 record, losing to Brigham Young, 24-17, in the Holiday Bowl. This season, they posted a 9-1-1 record during the regular season and finished second in the Big 10 behind Iowa.

According to Bo Schembechler, the 1985 Big 10 Coach of the Year, four points stood between his team and a shot at the national title. Michigan's only loss came in the sixth week of the season at Iowa City, Iowa.

The Wolverines were ranked second in the nation at the time, behind only Iowa, which defeated them 12-10 on Rob Houghtlin's 29-yard field goal on the final play of the game.

The Hawkeyes won despite the fact they didn't score a touchdown against Michigan's tenacious defense.

Two weeks later, Michigan tied Illinois, at Champaign, Ill., 3-3. The Illini had an opportunity to win on the final play of the game, but Chris White's 37-yard field goal attempt was tipped by the Wolverines and missed.

Defense was the name of the game for Michigan this season. The Wolverines shut out three opponents and allowed only five touchdowns, total, two by rushing and three by passing.

After the Iowa game, Hawkeye Coach Hayden Fry said: "They're so sharp, such perfectionists. Michigan has the best overall total defense we've seen since we've been in the Big 10, and without a doubt the best secondary in the conference."

The key figure in the Wolverine secondary is All-American Brad Cochran, a 6-foot-3, 219-pound senior from Royal Oak, Mich.

Up-front, the Michigan defense has tackle Mike Hammerstein, a 6-4, 240-pound senior from Wapakoneta, Ohio. "The thing you have to know about 'Hammer' is that he becomes obsessed with whatever is important to him."

Creating problems for opposing teams' offenses has been important to Hammerstein this season. He's been credited with 73 tackles, including 46 unassisted and 22 for losses totaling 110 yards. He's had nine quarterback sacks for 53 yards in losses.

The Wolverines' leading tacklers are linebackers Andy Moeller, the son of Michigan's defensive coordinator Gary Moeller, and Mike Mallory, the son of Indiana football coach Bill Mallory.

Moeller, a 6-0, 220-pound senior, has made 132 tackles, including 80 by himself. Mallory, a 6-2, 223-pound senior, has been credited with 99 tackles, 64 unassisted. His brother, Doug, plays in the secondary.

Another key defender is sophomore

## Scouting The Opponent

season, managed only 47 yards on 18 carries against Michigan.

How does a defense post the statistics the Wolverines have posted?

"There's some luck involved," according to Hammerstein. "But we've gone two or three games at a time where nobody gets inside our 20-yard line."

Michigan has a balanced offense, which revolves around quarterback Jim Harbaugh, a 6-3, 200-pound junior from Palo Alto, Calif., and one of the nation's most efficient passers.

Harbaugh has completed 139 of 212 passes for 1,913 yards and 18 touchdowns. He's been intercepted only six times. He threw three touchdown passes in a 27-17 victory over Ohio State in the final game of the season.

"It's just a great feeling after coming off that 6-6 season last year," Harbaugh said. "Nobody had expected us to do anything. Some of the coaches around the Big 10 thought we'd lose another five games this year."

"I think we proved a lot of people wrong."

Harbaugh's favorite target is Paul Jokisch, a 6-8, 240-pound split end. That's right, split end. Jokisch has caught 36 passes for 666 yards and two touchdowns. Tight end Eric Kattus, no small guy himself at 6-6, 222 pounds, has 35 receptions for 544 yards and eight touchdowns.

Halfback Jamie Morris has caught 31 passes for 206 yards, and he's rushed for 874 yards and three touchdowns.

The Wolverine's other regular ball carrier is Gerald White, a 6-0, 212-pound junior from Titusville, Fla. He's carried 120 times for 526 yards. White caught one of Harbaugh's touchdown passes in the Ohio State game.

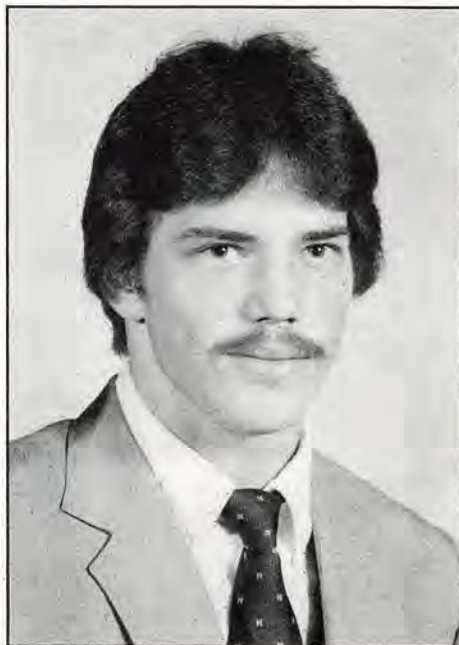
He's second on the team to kicker Mike Gillette in scoring with 10 touchdowns, six rushing and four receiving.

The Michigan offense has averaged 215 yards rushing and 186.6 yards passing per game. "That balance is something I don't think Michigan has been know for," said Harbaugh.

According to him, the Wolverines' defense also can take some credit for whatever offensive success the team has had this season.

"It sure helps us from an offensive point of view to be confident that the defense will keep us in games and get us the ball," Harbaugh said. "Our defense has been phenomenal all year. I know Oklahoma has one of the finest defenses around. But ours is awfully good, too."

Michigan's season at a glance: Notre Dame 20-12; at South Carolina 34-3; Maryland 20-0; Wisconsin 33-6; at Michigan State 31-0; at Iowa 10-12; Indiana 42-15; at Illinois 3-3; Purdue 47-0; at Minnesota 48-7; Ohio State 27-17. ♦



Mike Hammerstein

Mark Messner, a 6-3, 235-pound nose guard who's recorded 11 quarterback sacks for 92 yards in losses.

Michigan's defense has allowed an average of only 6.8 points and 253.6 yards per game.

The Wolverines led the Big 10 in scoring defense, total defense, rushing defense and passing defense.

Gary Moeller, who spent three seasons as the head coach at Illinois, builds his defense around quick players.

"We want teams to stay away from pre-snap reads on us," Moeller says. "Our defense changes at the snap. We keep our eyes on the ball and get great pursuit. That's why we like zone coverage better than man-to-man defense. It cuts down on big plays and gives us pursuit."

Michigan's entire defensive unit was selected as the "Player of the Game" by CBS, after the Wolverines shut out arch-rival Michigan State 31-0 on national television, in the fifth week of the season.

The Spartans' Lorenzo White, the nation's leading rusher through part of the



## Devaney

*Continued from page 39*

times the Cornhuskers held.

They took the opening kickoff and marched to the NU 13-yard line but came away with nothing when a field goal attempt went wide.

Michigan's third drive carried to the NU 31-yard line, where the Wolverines needed less than a foot on fourth down and failed. Kiffin and Kirby teamed up to stop Dave Raimey, Michigan's leading rusher in the game with 59 yards.

The Cornhuskers took over and marched down the field to score.

Thornton, who'd been cleared to play, was Nebraska's offensive catalyst. Devaney sent his co-captain into the game at the beginning of the second quarter, and on the first snap from scrimmage, a crushing block by 6-foot, 210-pound Thornton cleared a path for a 42-yard run by Stuewe.

After that run, however, the Cornhuskers were penalized for holding and faced a third-and-20 from the Michigan 34-yard line.

Again, Stuewe was a key. Taking a screen pass from Claridge, he picked up the first down, *literally clawing the last five yards*, according to Bryant's account in the *Sunday Journal and Star*.

Two plays later, Stuewe broke off a Thornton block and ran 11 yards for a touchdown. Baffico kicked the extra point, and Nebraska led 7-0 with 12:35 remaining in the first half.

The partisan Michigan crowd sat in stunned silence.

The Wolverines weren't stunned, however, and responded by marching 52 yards in nine plays to score. Quarterback Dave Glinka covered the final eight yards, on a fourth-and-eight, after eluding Brown and Robertson behind the line of scrimmage.

But Michigan failed to convert the extra point, and the Wolverines trailed at halftime, 7-6.

Nebraska's second touchdown drive, in the third quarter, was kept alive by an offside penalty against Michigan on a fourth down at midfield and a pass from Theisen to Huge which carried to the Wolverine 15-yard line.

Six plays later, Thornton dived into the end zone from a yard out. Bryant's description was dramatic: *Thornton leaped high on the pile of struggling bodies at the goal, sommersaulted and landed on his feet in the end zone.*

Baffico's attempt at the extra point was blocked. With 7:48 remaining in the third quarter, Nebraska led 13-6.

Michigan's next two series ended in disaster. On the first, Glinka threw an incomplete pass which was ruled a lateral, and Powers recovered for Nebraska at the Wolverine 38-yard line.

The Cornhuskers couldn't capitalize, however, and had to punt.

Michigan gave the ball right back, on first down, when Raimey fumbled and Tucker recovered at the UM 28.

The Wolverine defense fought hard but couldn't withstand Nebraska's assaults.

Two plays after Powers ran 19 yards to the five, Thornton carried into the end zone, only to have the touchdown nullified by a penalty for illegal motion. But the Cornhuskers were not to be denied. Claridge took matters into his own hands, covering the final five yards to score with 2:52 left in the third quarter. Claridge's extra-point kick failed. Nebraska 19, Michigan 6.

The Wolverines scored their final touchdown, on a four-yard run by Dick Rindfuss, with 12:32 remaining in the game. Bob Timberlake's extra point pulled Michigan back to 19-13.

Nebraska drove 75 yards to its final touchdown on the running and passing of Claridge. The series opened with a 17-yard pass to Donovan and included a 12-yard run by Claridge. The key passes, however, were to Huge and Callahan.

On a third-and-16 at the Michigan 44-yard line, Claridge teamed with Huge for exactly 16 yards. The officials measured before signaling first down. Then, on a fourth-and-eight at the 24-yard line, Claridge passed to Callahan for another

first down, by inches.

Thornton ran the final 16 yards, with the aid of a block from Brown, to score his second touchdown of the afternoon. Again, the extra-point kick failed, but with only 6:40 remaining in the game, Nebraska led 25-13.

The teams traded fumbles in the final minutes, and Nebraska drove deep into Wolverine territory one more time. With only two minutes left, a Cornhusker gamble on fourth down failed at the Michigan 29-yard line.

**New Husker Look Fashionable This Fall** the headlines proclaimed.

According to Bryant: *In shattering the Michigan Wolverines, 25-13, the new-look Cornhuskers were no late-blooming four-leaf clover carriers. They were the masters and the team to beat from the opening kickoff.*

Afterward, Devaney declared: "We've got a very good football team."

The Cornhuskers lost only twice in 11 games, to Missouri (16-7) and to Oklahoma (34-6), and they wrapped up Devaney's first season with an exciting 36-34 victory over Miami in the Gotham Bowl at New York City's Yankee Stadium.

That was a memorable game for Cornhusker fans who had become accustomed to losing.

But it couldn't top the Michigan game. Few victories in Nebraska football history can... ♦

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## Husker Depth Chart

### NU OFFENSE

**SE:** 85 Robb Schnitzler, 5-9, 170, jr.; 88 Rod Smith, 6-0, 195, so.  
**LT:** 65 Tim Roth, 6-0, 275, sr.; 57 Keven Lightner, 6-2, 280, so.  
**LG:** 70 Brian Blankenship, 6-1, 270, sr.; 75 Mike Hoefler, 6-5, 245, jr.  
**C:** 68 Bill Lewis, 6-6, 275, sr.; 54 Mark Cooper, 6-1, 245, jr.  
**RG:** 61 John McCormick, 6-0, 250, so.; 74 Stan Parker, 6-5, 245, jr.  
**RT:** 69 Tom Welter, 6-4, 275, jr.; 72 Rob Maggard, 6-3, 265, jr.  
**TE:** 80 Todd Frain, 6-3, 230; 87 Tom Banderas, 6-2, 225, so.  
**QB:** 7 McCathorn Clayton, 6-0, 195, so.; 11 Steve Taylor, 6-0, 180, fr.  
**FB:** 26 Tom Rathman, 6-0, 220, sr.; 49 Ken Kaelin, 5-10, 215, jr.  
**IB:** 22 Doug DuBose, 5-11, 190, jr.; 21 Paul Miles, 5-10, 210, sr.  
**WB:** 2 Von Sheppard, 5-9, 185, so; 23 Roger Lindstrom, 5-10, 195, sr.

### NU DEFENSE

**LE:** 81 Brad Smith, 6-3, 230, sr.; 84 Gregg Reeves, 6-3, 225, sr.  
**LT:** 76 Chris Spachman, 6-5, 250, jr.; 92 Neil Smith, 6-5, 245, so.  
**MG:** 95 Danny Noonan, 6-3, 275, jr.; 34 Todd Proffitt, 5-11, 250, sr.  
**RT:** 96 Jim Skow, 6-3, 250, sr.; 98 Lee Jones, 6-1, 230, so.  
**RE:** 89 Scott Tucker, 6-3, 220, sr.; 91 Tony Holloway, 6-2, 205, jr.  
**SLB:** 44 Mike Knox, 6-2, 235, sr.; 38 Steve Forch, 6-2, 230, jr.  
**WLB:** 35 Kevin Parsons, 6-3, 230, jr.; 46 Chad Daffer, 6-1, 230, sr.  
**LC:** 32 Brian Davis, 6-3, 195, jr.; 17 Cleo Miller, 5-9, 170, jr.  
**RC:** 27 Dennis Watkins, 5-11, 180, sr.; 42 Mike Carl, 5-11, 180, jr.  
**M:** 5 Brian Washington, 6-1, 205, so.; 4 Guy Rozier, 5-10, 190, sr.  
**S:** 19 Bryan Siebler, 5-11, 195, jr.; 45 Chris Carr, 6-2, 195, jr.  
**K:** 1 Dale Klein, 6-1, 195, jr.; 47 Dan Wingard, 6-1, 195, sr.  
**P:** 47 Dan Wingard, 6-1, 195, sr.; 1 Dale Klein, 6-1, 195, jr.

## Coach's Evaluation



Head Coach  
Tom Osborne

We certainly would've liked to have gone to the Orange Bowl because of what it would've represented. Joe Paterno is a good friend of mine. He's won 11 straight games, but it may be a little tougher assignment down there in the Fiesta Bowl than if we would've gone to the Orange Bowl.

"I guess time will tell.

"It's hard to conceive that somebody has a better defense than Oklahoma, but they (the Wolverines) may have. I know they are awfully good.

"They're probably a different type of athlete. They tend to recruit a lot of fullbacks and linebackers, and a lot of years, their biggest defensive linemen are only 220 pounds. But they're people who don't stay blocked long. They recover very quickly.

"They're kind of like running into a net. You get three yards, but they're all there. Oklahoma is a little more dominant. They've got people who just don't move if you hit them, and they've got people who can run, too.

"They've got some great athletes, particularly on the defensive side of the ball. I was on an All-American selection committee phone call, and I believe Michigan had four players who were heavily considered for All-American, which was more than any other team that we were looking at.

"So we're going to see two great defenses back-to-back, and a good offensive team with an experienced quarterback in (Jim) Harbaugh, who throws well and has been around for a long time.

"I think Iowa is a great football team, but Michigan could just as well have been at the top of the Big 10.

"Bo (Schembechler) and I are pretty good friends. He's a very intense guy, but a good guy, a nice guy. I know that Bo's teams are always well-prepared and very sound. The good thing about the ballgame is, (in losing to Oklahoma) we probably succeeded in getting Michigan overconfident."

**Bo Schembechler**, the 1985 Big 10 "Coach of the Year," has been at Michigan for 17 seasons. Under his direction, the Wolverines are 155-38-4, .797. Prior to coming to Michigan, Schembechler was the head coach at his alma mater, Miami of Ohio. His overall coaching record is 195-55-7, .772.

Schembechler has never had a losing season, and eight of his Michigan teams have won 10 or more games, and 13 have gone to post-season bowl games.

He's the second winningest coach in school history, behind only the legendary Fielding Yost. ♦

## Wolverine Depth Chart

### OFFENSE

**SE**—84 Paul Jokisch, 6-8, 240 sr.; 31 Ken Higgins, 6-2, 197 jr.  
**QT**—72 John Elliott, 6-7, 283 jr.; 51 Mike Krauss, 6-4, 269 sr.  
**QG**—67 John Vitale, 6-1, 277 soph.; 76 Michael Dames, 6-2, 258 soph.  
**C**—77 Bob Tabachino, 6-1, 267 sr.; 68 Andy Borowski, 6-4, 250 jr.  
**SG**—74 Mike Husar, 6-3, 278 soph.; 64 Dave Chester, 6-2, 248 soph.  
**ST**—79 Clay Miller, 6-4, 273 sr.; 75 Jerry Quacerna, 6-7, 273 sr.  
**TE**—81 Eric Kattus, 6-6, 223 sr.; 80 Jeff Brown, 6-4, 230 fr.  
**FL**—40 John Kolesar, 6-0, 190 fr.; 26 Gilvanni Johnson, 6-1, 188 sr.  
**QB**—4 Jim Harbaugh, 6-3, 204 sr.; 12 Chris Zurbrugg, 6-1, 201 jr.  
**FB**—22 Gerald White, 6-0, 222 jr.; 37 Bob Perryman, 6-1, 225 sr.  
**TB**—23 Jamie Morris, 5-7, 175 soph.; 46 Phil Webb, 6-1, 205 soph.  
**K**—19 Mike Gillette, 6-1, 185 fr.

### DEFENSE

**OLB**—85 Jim Scarcelli, 6-5, 220 sr.; 29 Tim Schulte, 6-3, 215 jr.  
**DT**—60 Mark Messner, 6-3, 235 soph.; 93 Dave Folkertsma, 6-5, 263 jr.  
**MG**—56 Billy Harris, 6-0, 257 jr.; 45 Mike Reinhold, 6-3, 228 sr.  
**DT**—66 Mike Hammerstein, 6-4, 269 sr.; 65 John Mihic, 6-4, 246 sr.  
**OLB**—33 Jeff Akers, 6-2, 201 sr.; 86 Steve Thibert, 6-5, 230 jr.  
**ILB**—42 Mike Mallory, 6-2, 223 sr.; 54 Andre McIntyre, 6-1, 250 jr.  
**ILB**—49 Andy Moeller, 6-0, 220 sr.; 41 Todd Schulte, 6-2, 223 jr.  
**SC**—13 Garland Rivers, 6-1, 185 jr.; 25 Rick Hassel, 6-0, 180 fr.  
**FS**—14 Tony Gant, 6-2, 180 sr.; 15 David Arnold, 6-3, 195 fr.  
**SS**—17 Ivan Hicks, 6-2, 174 sr.; 8 Doug Mallory, 6-1, 191 jr.  
**WC**—30 Brad Cochran, 6-3, 219 sr.; 10 Greg Randall, 6-1, 183 sr.  
**P**—43 Monte Robbins, 6-4, 201 jr.; 19 Mike Gillette, 6-1, 185 fr.



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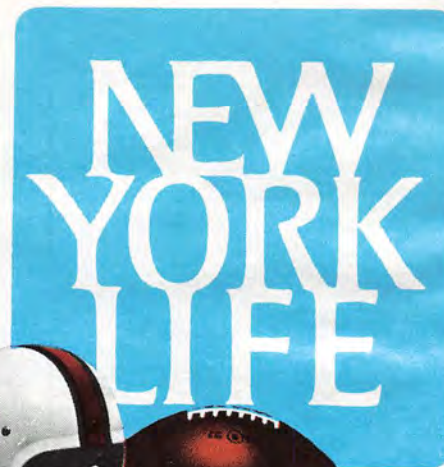
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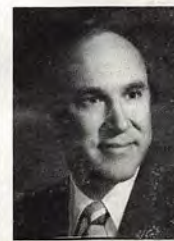
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